DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 23 1893
RECEIVED

Rec'd 25 Feb

No 1618.

To Amy Mandell

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 3rd, 1893.

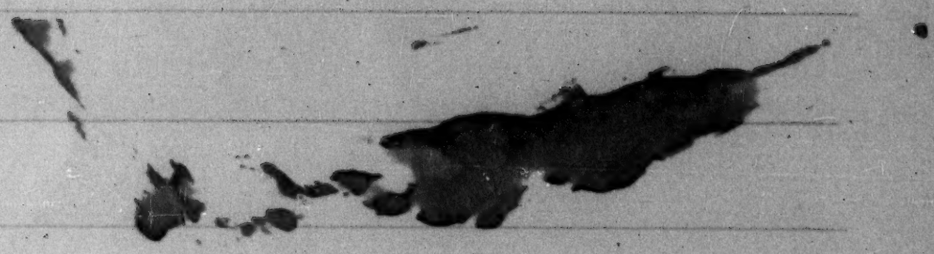
Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

The appointment of Chinese to Deputy Consulships

Synopsis

The Chinese Government will not recognize such appointments. The Minister deprecates them.



One enclosure.

No 1618.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 3rd 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the question of the recognition by the Chinese Government of Chinese subjects as United States deputy consuls arose shortly after the appointment of Chen Poy Woo as deputy consul at Canton. His commission was enclosed in your despatch No 745 of

August

August 19th last. I enclose a translation of a communication
1/1618 received from the Foreign Office on this subject. I deemed it proper to refer the matter to the consideration of Mr. Seymour, before entering upon a discussion of the subject with the Yamên.

Being informed of the difficulties attending his recognition as deputy consul, Mr. Chen Poy Woo resigned and thus put an end to the question.

On the first instant, I received from Mr. Edward Bedloe, Consul at Amoy, a despatch announcing that

Tien

Kin Ching-chung, a Chinese subject, had been appointed by the Department deputy consul at Amoy. This appointment again brings the subject into consideration. I most respectfully suggest to you that it is unadvisable to appoint Chinese subjects to consular positions in China. Such appointments not only contravene our general policy against the appointment of any foreigner to consular position, as it is set out in sections 22 and 40 of the Consular Regulations of 1888, but they are liable to objections peculiar to China.

In the case of mobs in this

this country, a Chinese subject acting in a consular position would attract rather than prevent violence. He would not be received by the native officials according to the etiquette observed with foreigners. He would be open to influences which might injuriously affect his conduct.

I await your instructions as to whether I shall press on the Chinese Government the recognition of Mr. Tsin Ching-chung as deputy consul.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

1. The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby No. 20 Dec. 11th 1892.

Enclosure 1 in No 1618.

Copy of translation.-

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby.

No 20 Dec. 11th 1892.

On the 2nd of November, the Prince and Ministers received another communication from the Minister of the United States announcing the appointment of Mr. Chen Poy-woo as deputy consul at Canton, and asked that orders be given to the Canton local authorities for his official recognition. The Yamên, at the time, informed the proper authorities of the appointment; which is of record.

Sir Robert Hart, Inspector-General of Customs, has presented a petition setting forth that Chen Poy-woo, he understands, is a Chinese subject, and, hitherto, the appointment of Chinese subjects to the position of a foreign consul has never

been

been arranged in existing regulations and he asks that the Yamên consider the matter and favor him with a reply. The Yamên would observe that foreign consuls appointed in China are transferred and changed, but hitherto Chinese subjects have never been appointed to perform the functions of a consul.

It is not known whether Mr. Consul Seymour is going to the United States or not. As in duty bound, the Yamên addresses the United States Minister and would enquire whether Mr. Consul Seymour at Canton is still performing the duties of his office.

As Mr. Chen Poy-woo is a Chinese subject, the local authorities (at Canton) would find it difficult to receive him. Furthermore it would not

be

be in harmony with the laws of the United States. In future there is no need to inform the Chinese officials of such appointments.

The Prince and Ministers beg the Minister of the United States to favor them with a reply to the end that it may be convenient for them to write to the officials concerned.

A necessary communication addressed to

H.E. Charles Denby.

etc., etc., etc.

Dep. Bureau
To Agriculture
W. F. W.
25 Feb 93

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 23 1893
RECEIVED

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
FEB 24 1893

No 1619.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 4th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
The papaw tree.

Synopsis
Its properties highly recommended
in a newspaper clipping enclosed.

One enclosure.

No 1619.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 4th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

For the possible benefit of the Agricultural Department, I beg to enclose a clipping from the Shanghai Mercury of the 12th ultimo, of which the subject is the papaw tree. This tree grows largely in Southern Indiana and you and I can recall many occasions on which we gathered its fruit. We did not

1/1619

One enclosure.

No 1619.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 4th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

For the possible benefit of the Agricultural Department, I beg to enclose a clipping from the Shanghai Mercury of the 12th ultimo, of which the subject is the papaw tree. This tree grows largely in Southern Indiana and you and I can recall many occasions on which we gathered its fruit: We did

not

1/1619

not, I believe, then suspect the wonderful qualities which are ascribed to it in the enclosure. If these qualities really belong to the papaw, its extensive cultivation would be desirable.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Clipping from the Shanghai Mercury, Dec. 12th 1892, editorial.

Enclosure in No 1619.

To be returned to State Dept
See letter to Legn
of 25 Feb 93

The Shanghai Mercury.

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1892.

CONSIDERABLE attention has been directed of late to the useful properties of the Papaw tree, the *Carica Papaya* of LINNÆUS, and as it is not uncommon in this country, especially in the South, it may be of advantage to residents if its virtues are made more widely known. The Papaw belongs to the Natural Order *Passiflorex*, of which the passion-flower is the typical member; it is indigenous in South America, but has been largely introduced into most tropical countries. It is a handsome tree and would be ornamental in a garden, but it has, among other qualities to be afterwards enumerated, that of absorbing incredible quantities of moisture, a quality whereby shrubs and plants in its neighbourhood suffer. Its stem is cylindrical and attains a height of twenty feet; the leaves are singularly large, issue from the top of the stem and are very graceful in shape. Merely considered as a fruit-tree, it is most valuable. Dr. T. PECKOLT, who has made the Papaw a special study, tells us that "This herbaceous tree is in Brazil the constant companion of the banana, and is never wanting near the huts of the Natives. And rightly do the Indians honour this useful and most grateful tree, specially selected by Providence for people averse to any cultivation, for without the slightest care or labour after a few months' growth it yields harvests the whole year through." Wherever its seeds fall a young plant springs up and flourishes without requiring attention of any kind; the seedlings brave all weathers, are very tenacious of life, are not eaten by animals, and after becoming ten inches high, are not prevented by injury to leaf or bark from growing luxuriantly and almost perceptibly to the eye, even more rapidly than the banana. It is quite possible that it may not exhibit in China all the virtues here detailed as possessed by it in its native land, but even without its original rapidity of growth and hardiness of habit, it has still so many wonderful properties remaining that wherever reared it is a valuable botanical product.

It is as a producer of vegetable pepsine that the Papaw is chiefly remarkable; and in countries like China, where, even with the help of an ice-chest, it is difficult to provide oneself with eatable butcher's meat in the middle of summer, it might be well if experiments were made to test its alleged qualities. In India, it appears, old hogs and poultry fed upon the leaves and fruit, however tough the meat they afford might otherwise be, are thus rendered perfectly tender and good, if eaten as soon as killed. In Jamaica meat is made tender by being washed with water to which the juice of the Papaw tree has been added; and if the meat be left in such water for ten minutes, it will fall from the spit while roasting or separate into shreds while boiling. From which it appears that it is possible to carry the use of Papaw juice too far. But actual contact with the fruit or its juice is not necessary. Captain S. P. OLIVER, writing in *Nature*, says, "In Mauritius where we lived principally on ration beef cut from the tough flesh of the Malagasy oxen, we were in the habit of hanging the ration under the leaves themselves; and if we were in a hurry for a very tender piece of fillet, our cook would wrap up the undercut of the sirloin in the leaves, when the newly-killed meat would be as tender as if it had been hung for a considerable time." Similarly in South America it is known that the exhalations of the tree have this property, and joints of meat, fowls, &c., are hung among its branches to prepare them for the table. Speaking scientifically, the fruit, juice and leaves of this tree are found to have a solvent action when brought into contact with animal tissue and that not only where the flesh is dead, but, in some respects, even more remarkable, where it is living. The fact has been taken advantage of by medical men with good effect in sundry diseases. The very expression, vegetable pepsine, which we employed above, indicates at once the simplest of the uses of this remedy. It has been administered with excellent results in cases of indigestion, from whence its use has been extended to more complex disorders. It has been successfully "exhibited," as doctors say, for enlarged spleen and liver. Surgeon B. EVERS, in the *Indian Medical Gazette*, reports that out of sixty cases thirty-nine were cured; in eighteen the result was not given; and in three cases of enormously enlarged spleens, relief was afforded. "The juice was administered as follows: A teaspoonful was mixed with an equal quantity of sugar, and the mass was divided into three boluses, of which one was taken morning, noon and evening. For children, a single drop of the juice was given as a dose mixed with sugar." In Mauritius it is regarded as one of the most successful remedies for intestinal worms, a single dose being usually sufficient for a cure.

The active principle of the Papaw has been investigated not only by Dr. T. Peckolt, who gave it the name of Papayotin, but also by Drs. Bouchut and Wurtz, who called it Papaine, and it is the latter name which appears to be the more generally accepted. But Dr. Bouchut further made an important discovery which opened up an entirely new field of usefulness for the Papaw. He found that "both the diluted juice and Papaine had the property of digesting living tissues, normal or pathological, such as adenomata and cancer, and converting them into peptones in exactly the same way as dead ones. This knowledge was very soon turned to account. Surgeons commenced to treat abnormal growths with Papaine, and found it most efficacious in removing the false membranes of croup and diphtheria. As a rule solutions of one in ten were employed for painting the throat, and in some cases Papaine was also given internally." In obstinate cases of eczema and other skin-diseases this substance has also been tried with good results. Compounding a mixture of twelve grains of Papaine and five grains of powdered borax in two drachms of distilled water, the affected part was painted twice daily and "in less than a month the hard horny masses of heaped-up epidermis had entirely disappeared from the skin, and the texture was left quite normal."

The Chinese of the South give to the Papaw the name *Mu-kua*, or "tree gourd," a designation which in the North is confined to the quince (*Pyrus cathayensis Hecusl*). From this it may at once be legitimately inferred that the quince is unknown in the South and the Papaw in the North. Considering what valuable qualities the latter has been shown to possess, it is strange that the Natives of this country, though they cultivate the tree, appear to be ignorant of its virtues. It is true that in Formosa, where it is popularly known as the *Ju-shu* or "milk tree," it is credited with the property of promoting the secretion of milk in nursing mothers, but its antiseptic and digestive powers seem not to be recognised. As it grows so easily, it would be of advantage to introduce it into Shanghai gardens, where its presence, in the neighbourhood of the kitchen, would have a beneficial and lowering effect on our summer ice-bills.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 23 1893
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Copy to Navy Dep.
So ack.
FEB 23 1893

No 1620.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 4th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Flags to be used by officers of the Chinese Navy of the rank of Rear-Admiral &c.

— Synopsis —

Copies of the designs for such flags enclosed.

No 1620. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 4th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a translation of a communication
1620. from the Foreign Office wherein the flags are described which will hereafter be used to designate the rank of officers holding the position of Rear Admiral in the Chinese Navy, &c.

I have pursued faithful agreement of the flags sent to me which are enclosed herewith.

The

The Yamin requests that these designs be communicated to the naval authorities of the United States.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Foreign Office to Mr. Denby December 26th 1892, with specimens of flags as above.

Separate. One Enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 9th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster.

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my salary account for the Quarter ended December 31st, 1892.

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient Servant

F.D. Chesbrough

Interpreter of Legation

Enclosure 1. Statement as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 23 1893
RECEIVED

No 1621.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 5th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Enclosing Salary Account for quarter ending December 31st 1892.

No 1621. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 5th, 1893

To the Honorable

John W Foster.

Secretary of State

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to

21. hand you Enclosed a statement

of my salary account for the

quarter ended December 31st 1892.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Statement as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 23 1893
RECEIVED

No 1622.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 5th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing Statement of
Rent Account for quarter
Ending December 31st, 1892.

No 1622. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 5th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W Foster.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you Enclosed a statement of the Rent-account of this Legation for the quarter ended December 31st 1892.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Statement as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 23 1893
RECEIVED

No 1623.

Legation of the United States
Peking, January 5th, 1893.

— Wm. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —
Enclosing statement of Passports issued during quarter Ended December 31st, 1892.

Passport Bureau
March 8, 93

No 1623. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 5th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John. W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you Enclosed a Statement of Passports issued at this Legation for the quarter Ended December 31st, 1892.

1623

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Statement as above.

Mr Criddle

Thos. explanation
seems to be satisfactory
Copy to Senate Sherman
for his information

No 1624.

Legation of the United States

Peking, January 6th, 1893.

Done 7 Mar 93

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The charge of drunkenness against Consul Bowman.

Synopsis

The minister reports that this charge has not been sustained.

No 1624.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 6th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

On the receipt of your telegram of the 21st ultimo, wherein I was directed to make an examination of the charge of drunkenness made against Consul Bowman, I proceeded to perform that duty.

As I did not know who the accuser was I was unable to invite him to take steps

to

to substantiate his charge. I made inquiries in Tientsin as to Mr. Bowman's habits, and procured statements in the nature of affidavits from several wellknown citizens who are intimately acquainted with Mr. Bowman.

These gentlemen testify that they have been intimately acquainted with Mr. Bowman since he became consul, and that they have never known of his being incapacitated for the discharge of his duties by the excessive use of alcoholic drink and that the charge of drunkenness which has been made against him is entirely

unwarranted

unwarranted.

In addition I have to say that Mr. Bowman was my guest at Peking, for some days, during two winters and that I have seen him also several times at Tientsin. He certainly was not under the influence of liquor on any of these occasions.

I deem it proper, therefore, to report to you that the charge of drunkenness against Consul Bowman has not been sustained.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 1 1893
RECEIVED

Separate

Legation of the United States
Peking, January 9th, 1893.

— Wm. F. D. Sherman —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing Salary Account
for Quarter Ending December
31st 1892.

No 1625.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 1 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 9th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Acknowledging dispatches

No 1625.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 9th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches as follows: No 758, of Nov. 16th, 759 and 760 of Nov. 17th and 761 of Nov. 18th, 1892.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 1 1893
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack with satisfaction of the progress made.
MAR 1 1893

No 1626.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 9th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

The new legation offices.

Synopsis

The contract to build has been let.

No 1626.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 9th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the contract for building the new legation offices was signed the 7th instant. The contractor has the privilege to place material in the compound immediately and building is to commence the 22nd proximo.

The members of this legation have

have been in frequent consultation with Mr. F. D. Yanewell, the agent of the owners, as to details, and it is believed that the new building will supply all the want of the legation and will secure the safety of the archives.

It is supposed that the offices will be ready for occupation the first of next June.

This much needed improvement greatly redounds to the credit of the Department and is a special source of gratitude on my part, as will be, no doubt, on the part of my successor for many years to come.

J

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 11 1893
RECEIVED

Dep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 10th, 1893.

Mr. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Salary and exchange accounts

Two enclosures.

Dep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 10th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to

1 enclose my salary account

for the quarter ending Dec.

2 31st 1892, together with exchange

account.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Second Secretary.

Enclosures.

Accounts.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
MAR 11 1893
RECEIVED.

No 1627.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 12th, 1893.

— Mr. Charlesbourg —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing Telegraph account from September 12th, 1892, to December 16th, 1892.

No 1627. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking January 12th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed, my account for
1627. telegrams from September 12th, 1892,
to December 16th 1892, amounting
to $41.83 against which I have
drawn my draft on you in the
usual way.

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Account as above.

Dip

No 1628.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 11 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 13th, 1893.

— Wm Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing Statement of
Contingent Expenses Account
for Quarter Ended December 31/92.

———— — — ————

No 1628. One enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 13th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to

enclose a statement of the

628 Contingent Expenses Account

of this Legation for the quarter

Ended December 31st, 1892.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Statement as above.

3RD ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
MAR 13 1893
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 11 1893
RECEIVED
MAR 18 1893

No 1629.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 15th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
The Russian-Chinese telegraph convention

Synopsis
A translation of the treaty between Russia and China, for the connection of telegraph lines on the frontier, enclosed; also an abstract thereof with some remarks on the treaty.

One enclosure.

No. 1629.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 15th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the treaty between China and Russia, for the connection of telegraph lines on their frontier, which was negotiated last summer at Tientsin, has been ratified by both the powers.

I have not been able to procure the text of this treaty but

1
1629

but I enclose, herewith, a translation thereof which has been furnished me by a friend.

For your convenience, I send the following abstract of the treaty.

The first section mentions that it is intended to establish telegraphic connection between the two countries.

The second fixes the points of junction: these are Kiachta and Pouiet, Kelampo and Blagouetchensk and Kiachta.

The first of these connections is to be made immediately; the second as soon as the cable is laid under the Amur

River

River, but, in any case, in six months; the third as soon as China has built the overland line between Peking and Kiachta but, at any rate, in five years.

Each country is to contribute equally to the expense of laying the cable.

Both countries are to be bound by the rules of the Telegraphic Union. Service messages are to be free.

The tariff shall not be altered without the consent of both countries, but in the event of competition it may be reduced.

It is in the tariff that the outside world is chiefly interested.

It is as follows: On messages to and from Asiatic Russia and China, Russia is to receive francs 1.73 (say 40d Mex.) a word. On messages to and from European Russia (including the Caucasus) and China, Russia is to receive francs 2.73 (say 64d Mex.) a word. On messages in transit, Russia is to receive francs 3 (say 70d Mex.) a word.

On messages to and from China and any part of Russia, China shall receive francs 2 (say 48d Mex.) a word. On messages to and from any other European country than

Russia

Russia and China, China is to receive francs 5.50 (say $1.30 Mex.) a word, out of which she must pay the charges due to the European country over whose wires the message is transmitted.

The tariff for messages from or to Europe or other countries (Russia excepted) to or from Shanghai, Foochow, Amoy and Hongkong and the vicinity of these ports where the cable companies (the Great Northern and the Eastern Extension) have offices, when transmitted by the Russian or Chinese line, shall not be less than the

rates

rates charged by the Vladivostok cable company. Should the cable companies reduce their rates China shall reduce hers.

Messages between China and Europe shall not have the benefit of this tariff by passing through the lands of agents who may receive and retransmit the messages en route.

The object of this clause is to destroy the Desmond Agency, which has been receiving messages at Kelampo over the Chinese wires and paying the Chinese tariff and then transmitting them at

Blagovestchensk

Blagowestchensk and paying the Russian tariff. By this system of transmission the Desmond Agency has been enabled to reduce the cost of telegraphing considerably.

Rates of exchange are fixed. The treaty terminates December 31st 1902.

By this treaty the Russians get their messages sent, to and fro, between Siberia and China for francs 3.73 (say 88¢ Mex.) a word, and between European Russia (including the Caucasus) and China for francs 4.73 (say $1-12 Mex.) a word, while every other part of Europe must

must pay francs 8.50 (say $2.00 Mex.) a word.

In telegraphing to the United States, there is a reduction from present rates of about forty Mexican cents a word.

The Shanghai papers have, to some extent, attacked this treaty on the ground that it violated the "favored nation clause" in the treaties by granting peculiar advantages to Russia. It is said that one of these papers is owned and controlled by one of the directors of the Desmond Agency.

The benefits accruing to China under this treaty are

not

not very apparent. The greater part of the business from China will go from the treaty ports where the cable lines have offices. These lines will naturally be preferred to the land lines, because they are much less liable to interruption on account of riots or weather than the land lines are.

I was not appealed to by any corporate body or any American citizen to intervene by an attempt to prevent the ratification of this treaty, and I took no action to that end. I was unable to convince myself that the "favored nation

nation clause" in the treaties
should be construed so as
to secure for all nations, as
matter of right, the benefits of
a contract which two nations,
for a substantial consideration,
may make with each other.
The "favored nation clause", in
my opinion, applies to rights
which are general in their
character and not to matters
of special contract which are
based on a mutual consideration
granted and received. The recent
Reciprocity treaties made by
our own government illustrate
this construction. By the
treaty under consideration,
Russia agrees that China

may

may join her telegraph lines to those of Russia. In compensation therefor she receives lower rates than are granted to other countries.

If the rates fixed for the other countries were exorbitant, just grounds of complaint would arise, and such complaint may still be made.

One other view had some influence in preventing my active intervention against the ratification of this treaty. If the rates are exorbitant, the demand for competition will grow in force and thereby the laying of a trans-Pacific cable will be hastened.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Translation of Russian-

Chinese telegraph convention.

Enclosure in No 1629

Treaty between China and Russia for the connection of telegraph lines on their frontier.

1. In order to establish telegraphic communication, China and Russia agree to connect their lines in the manner hereinafter described.

2. The points shall be as follows:

1. The Chinese telegraph office at Hunchun shall connect with the Russian telegraph office at Possiet.

2. The Chinese office at Tsitsihar shall connect with the Russian office at Blagowestchensk.

3. The Chinese line about to be constructed to Kiachta shall connect with the Russian office at Kiachta. Should there hereafter be places where Chinese and Russian lines are in close proximity, connection will be established if it seems advantageous to both countries.

3. The Hunchun and Possiet

connection

connection will be made immediately after the signing of the treaty. The Kelampo and Blagouertchensk connection will be made as soon as the cable has been laid, but, in any case, the delay may not exceed six months after the signing of this treaty. The Kiachta connection will be made as soon as the Chinese shall have constructed the line from Peking to Kiachta but, in any case, not later than five years after the signing of this treaty.

4. The telegraphs above refered to shall be erected and maintained by each country's administration within its own border and neither shall encroach so much as an inch within the territory of the other. As regards the cable beneath the Amur for the junction at Kelampo - Blagouertchensk, the cost shall be borne by the two

telegraph

telegraph administrations and the cable shall be the property of both countries.

5. In all matters referring to telegraphing and the receipt and despatch of messages, the rules of the telegraphic union shall be observed; and the rules now in force regarding messages sent by cable between China and Russia shall equally apply to messages transmitted by land line. Messages on telegraphic business shall be transmitted free of charge. As regards the transmission of messages sent on the lines referred to in article 2 of this treaty, the Chinese and Russian administrations will each make its own arrangements in such a way that at all times messages shall be sent off as soon as they are received.

6. China and Russia each have

their

their own line to the frontier and each country fixes its tariff, but during the time this treaty is in force the rates agreed upon in article 7 may not be altered without the consent of both powers.
The two countries further agree, in accordance with the rules of the Telegraph Union, that should hereafter either landlines or cables give communication with foreign countries at a lower tariff than that fixed by the present treaty, the Chinese and Russian lines will make a proportional reduction in their rates.
7. The tariff for messages over the line refered to in article 2 shall be as follows on messages to and from Russia and China Russia shall receive the following rates:
A1. From Asiatic Russia to and from China 1.73 francs per word.
A 2. From European Russia and

the

the Caucasus to or from China 2.73 francs per word.

On messages in transit Russia shall receive -
B 1. Three francs per word.

On messages to or from China and Russia, China shall receive:
A 1. On messages to or from China and Russia in Asia or Europe or the Caucasus 2 francs per word.
A 2. On messages to or from countries in Europe or any other country 5.50 francs per word (Russia excluded)

On messages in transit China shall receive -
B 1. From European countries or other countries (Russia excluded) to any other countries 5.50 francs per word.
B 2. For all other telegrams passing through China (including

those

those from Russia) 2 francs per word.

The proportion due to European countries under the provisions of the Telegraph Union shall come out of the 5^{cts} received by China under A 2 and B 1.

The tariff for messages from or to Europe or other countries (Russia excepted) to or from Shanghai, Foochow, Amoy and Hongkong and the vicinity of these ports where the cable companies now have offices, when transmitted by the Russian or Chinese line, shall not amount to less than the rates charged by the Vladivostock cable company. Should hereafter the cable companies send messages from Amoy, Foochow and Hongkong to Europe via Russian lines at reduced tariffs China shall at once reduce the tariff for similar messages both for terminal and transit.

The

The tariff agreed upon between China and Russia is bona fide intended for messages between the two countries. Messages between China and Europe may not have the benefit of this tariff by passing through the hands of agents who may receive and retransmit the messages en route.

8. Accounts and receipts shall be compared by the frontier stations each day and a settlement shall be arranged at the end of each month. The balances shall be settled at Tientsin on the 2nd of each month. Telegrams referring to the accounts shall pass free. The settlement shall be made according to the foreign calendar.

9. Accounts shall be settled in kong ping taels at the rate of 4.25 francs per Mexican dollar and 70 kong ping taels per 100 dollar.

10. The treaty shall remain in force until 31 December 1902. The ministers plenipotentiaries have signed 12 copies of this treaty. at Tientsin, 3 in Chinese, 3 in Manchu, 3 in Russian and 3 in French. The French text to prevail in case of dispute.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 11 1893
RECEIVED

No 1630.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 18th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Transmitting Statement of Account for Loss by Exchange for Quarter Ended December 31st, 1892.

——— - - - ———

No 1630. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 8th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my account for loss by Exchange for the quarter Ended December 31st, 1892.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Statement as above.

3RD ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
MAR 13 1893

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
MAR 11 1893
RECEIVED.

No 1631.

Rec'd Mch 14

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 18th 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

The alleged abrogation by China of the treaty of 1880.

Synopsis

No foundation for this report except the statements of a Taotai at Shanghai.

No 1631.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 18th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

During the past autumn the Chinese local authorities at Shanghai permitted rice to be shipped to Tientsin on the steamers of the China Merchants Navigation Company without paying coastwise duties, but required all rice shipped in foreign bottoms to pay such duties.

H.

B. M's consul claimed that this discrimination contravened the third article of the treaty of November 17th 1880 between China and the United States - See Treaties 1776-1887 p. 184.

The taotai defended his action by claiming that the United States had violated this treaty, and, therefore, Great Britain could not avail herself of its provisions. Evidently there is nothing in this point. I suppose that when any nation, under the favored nation clause, accepts rights granted to another nation, such rights are not revoked by an abrogation of the original treaty.

a

A much better answer would have been that the third article of the treaty had application only to the United States, being in the nature of a reciprocal contract for a consideration, and not gratuitous, and, therefore, not covered by the "favored nation" clause.

As no American interests were involved, I did not think it necessary, or prudent, to take up and dispute the allegation that the United States had violated the treaty of 1880, made by a subordinate official under the circumstances stated.

I mention the matter now

simply

simply because I saw in the papers that your attention had been called to it.

The imperial government has never intimated to this legation that it regarded the treaty of 1880 as abrogated. It would certainly be inconsistent to take such a view while, through the mediation of Chinese subjects residing in the United States, the exclusion act is attacked as violating the treaty.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Separate.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 11 1893
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 19th, 1893.

— Wm. F. D. Cheshire —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Transmitting Statement of Account for Loss by Exchange for Quarter Ended December 31st, 1892.

———

Separate. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 19th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed a statement of my account for Hong Kong Exchange for the quarter ended December 31st, 1892.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

C. D Sheehan.

Interpreter of Legation.

Enclosure 1. Statement as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 11 1893
RECEIVED

No 1632.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 19th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing duplicate statement of salary account for quarter Ended December 31st, 1892.

———— — — — ————

No 1632. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States
Peking January 19th, 1893.

To the Honorable
John W. Foster
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor
1632. to enclose duplicate statement
of my salary Account for the
quarter ended December 31st, 1892.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Duplicate statement as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
MAR 11 1893
RECEIVED.

No 1633.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 19th, 1893.

— Wm. Woodville Rockhill —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —
Enclosing duplicate statement of Rent Account for quarter ended December 31st, 1892.

No 1633 One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 19th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate statement of the Rent Account of this Legation for the Quarter Ended December 31st 1892.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Duplicate statement as above.

No 1634.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 11 1893
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 19th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject —

Enclosing duplicate statement of Passports issued during the quarter ended December 31st, 1892.

_____ — — — _____

No 1634. one enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 19th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster

Secretary of State

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate return of Passports issued at this Legation during the quarter ended December 31st, 1892. 34.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Duplicate statement as above.

Passport Bureau

March 15, 1923.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 11 1893
RECEIVED

No 1635.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 20th, 1893.

— Wm. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Despatch —

Enclosing duplicate statement of Telegraph Account from September 12th, 1892, to December 16th, 1892.

No 1635 Our Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 20th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster

Secretary of State

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate statement of my telegraph account from September 12th 1892, to December 16th, 1892.

1635.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Duplicate statement as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 11 1893
RECEIVED

No 1636.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 20th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —

Enclosing duplicate statement of contingent Expenses account for quarter Ended December 31st, 1892.

— — — —

No 1636. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 20th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you Enclosed duplicate
6. statement of the Contingent Expenses account of this Legation for the quarter Ended December 31st, 1892.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Duplicate statement as above.

Clerk's file

No 1637.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 11 1893
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAR 11 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 23rd, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Acknowledging a despatch

No 1637.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 23rd, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No 762, of the 18th November, with enclosure.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Archives file

No 1638.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 22 1893
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAR 23 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 27th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Roads in China

Synopsis

Description thereof.

(Files for publication)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 22 1893
RECEIVED.

No 1639.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 28th, 1893.

— Wm. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing Duplicate Account
for Loss by Exchange for
quarter Ended December 31/92.

— — — — —

No 1639. one enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 28th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate statement of my account for loss by Exchange for the quarter Ending December 31st, 1892.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Duplicate statement as above.

No 1640.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
MAR 29 1893
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 4th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledging despatches

No 1640.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 4th, 1893.

To the Honorable
John W. Foster,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches No 763, of the 1st December, No 764, of the 7th December, No 765, of the 12th December, and of your circular, of the 2nd December, with reference to the International Conference of Meteorologists at Washington.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAR 30 1893

No 1641.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
MAR 29 1893
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack by subject & file.
aag
MAR 30 1893

31 May

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 7th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

The death of the Hon. J. G. Blaine

Synopsis

Tribute to Mr. Blaine's character.
Has directed the flag of this
legation to be put at half-mast.

No 1641.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 7th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have seen with profound regret a telegram announcing the death of Hon. James G. Blaine.

While, in connection with all his countrymen, I pay willing tribute to his memory on account of his mental greatness and eminent services

to

to his country, I have special
cause to remember with gratitude
his uniform kindness to this
legation while he was Secretary
of State. It is, even in the first
flush of this great sorrow,
consoling to remember that no
difference marred his intercourse
with this legation; that a
discrepancy of political opinion
in no wise entered into his
treatment of myself; that in
public matters he was considerate
and courteous, and in matters
affecting the comfort or welfare
of all the members of this legation,
he was always and uniformly
as kind and indulgent as
the warmest personal friend

could

could possibly have been. I can remember no request made to him that he ever denied.

I recall many incidents of kindness which will be treasured up in all our memories. While these things came in the exercise of a wide discretion, yet their uniform tendency indicated impartiality, liberality, an intellect above petty considerations, and a warm and genial heart.

I had only a slight personal acquaintance with him, but in our official intercourse, extending over more than three years, I felt that I knew him well,

and

and this intercourse continually tended to increase my respect and esteem for him.

For these reasons, I beg to put on record this feeble tribute to his great and enduring memory. Without awaiting your formal instruction I have directed the flag of this legation to be put at half mast during the usual time.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No 1642.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 11th 1893.

— Wm. Charles Denby —

to the

— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —

Enclosing Statement of Repair Account for six months ending December 31st, 1892.

———— - - - - ————

No 1642. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 11th, 1893.

To the Honorable
John W. Foster.
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose
Statement of the Repair Account
of this Legation for the six months
ended December 31st, 1892.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant
Charles Denby

42.

Enclosure 1.
Statement as above.

No 1643.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack with gratification
Copy to Sec'y of Agriculture
MAR 29 1893

✓ 31 mar
" "

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 28 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States
Peking, February 14th 1893.

— Wm. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —
— August —
The Meteorological Conference
at Washington.
— Synopsis —
Shiva will send a representative.

No 1643. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 14th, 1893.

To the Honorable
John W. Foster,
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to inform you, that in compliance with your circular of December 2d last, I transmitted to the Foreign Office an urgent invitation to the Government of China to send delegates to the International Conference of Meteorologists which it is proposed to hold at Washington in July of this year.

I enclose a translation of the

Author

No 1643. one enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 14th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to inform you, that in compliance with your circular of December 2d last, I transmitted to the Foreign Office an urgent invitation to the Government of China to send delegates to the International Conference of Meteorologists which it is proposed to hold at Washington in July of this year.

I enclose a translation of the

Enclosure

answer of the Yamen to my note.
After reciting substantially the
contents of my communication
the Yamen informed me that
it had directed the Chinese Minister
at Washington to appoint an officer
to represent China at the Conference,
but that it cannot state at present
who will be appointed.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. with despatch No 1643.

The Foreign office to Mr Bailey

Informal

Peking February 12 1893.

Your Excellency,

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note stating that it is the purpose of Your Government to hold an international conference of Meteorologists at Washington on the 26th. July 1893; that some of the topics to be discussed by the conference will be the organization of Meteorological work for the benefit of agriculture; the extension to all parts of storm and weather signals; the publication of daily charts of the weather all over the world. etc:

Yours

Your Excellency also stated that you were directed to extend to China an invitation to participate in this conference by sending representatives as members thereof, and enclosed a paper in English regarding the conference.

We have duly perused your Excellency's note and have to state that we have addressed the Chinese Minister at Washington to appoint at the proper time an officer to represent China at the said Conference, but we cannot state at present who will be appointed. We beg that your Excellency will inform the honorable Secretary of State.

each of Ministers with compliments.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack by subject & File.
MAR 29 1893
Read Mar 31
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAR 29 1893

No 1644.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
MAR 28 1893
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 15th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —
Appointment of Mr. Yang Yu
as Minister to the United States.

— Synopsis —
Some account of the New
Minister's career.

— — — — —

No 1644.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 15th 1893.

To the Honorable
John W. Foster
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to inform you that the following Imperial decree has been issued:—

"Liu Yang Jen, an officer of the second rank, be relieved of his office as Taotai (Kuei-ning-chi Tai-Kuang circuit), and he is hereby advanced to the position of Expectant Director of a Minor Court and appointed Our Minister to the United States, Spain and Peru."

The newly appointed Minister is a Chinese Bannerman of the Bordered

Borderd Red Banner. He commenced his official career as a second class assistant secretary in the Board of War. He held other positions in the same Board and afterwards took the third Literary degree. He served as Tartar at Khiakta and afterwards in the same position at Urga. He is the son of a former Provincial Treasurer.

He is reported to be a man of good manners, genial and pleasant, and well inclined towards foreigners socially.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

Charles Denby

No 1645.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 22 1893
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 17th, 1893.

— Wm. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing duplicate Statement of Repairs Account for quarter ending December 31st, 1892.

No 1645. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 17th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate statement of the Repairs Account of this Legation for the six months ended December 31st, 1892

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure. Duplicate Statement as above.

Separate.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 17th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 22 1893
RECEIVED.

— Wm. F. D. Sherman —

to the

— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing duplicate Statements of Salary and Fees by Exchange Accounts for quarter Ended December 31st, 1892.

— - - - —

Separate. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 17th, 1893.

To the Honorable
John W. Foster,
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate statement of my salary account for the quarter ended December 31st, 1892, and duplicate statement of my account for Loss by Exchange for the same period.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
J.D. Detring
Interpreter of Legation

Enclosure 1 and 2. Duplicate Statements as above.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack by subject and with satisfaction -
APR 22 1893
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 22 1893

No. 1646.

Legation of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
APR 22 1893
RECEIVED.

Peking, February 20th 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
The Episcopal Mission's claim at Ichang.

Synopsis
This claim settled by the payment of Taels 8000. No claims now pending in this legation against China.

No. 1646.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 20th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the American Protestant Episcopal Mission agreed to accept the sum of Hankow taels 8009, in payment of its claim for damages on account of property destroyed in the riot at Ichang, the 3rd September 1891.

Consul

Consul Andrews collected this sum of money from the taotai at Hankow and paid it over to Mr. Thomson, Chairman of the Committee of the American Protestant Episcopal Mission.

I beg to observe that there are no claims now pending in this legation against the government of China.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
BUREAU OF ACCOUNTS.
will please comply.
Ack accordingly. ABA
APR 22 1893

DIPLOMATIC
APR 22 1893

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
APR 22 1893
RECEIVED.

No. 1647.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 1st, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Newspapers for ensuing year.

No 1647.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 1st, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that there be sent to this legation, during the coming fiscal year, the following newspapers – the "Washington Post", the "New York Weekly Nation".

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Copy to Treasury for its information and
So acknowledge - aa
APR 25 1893

No 1648.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 2nd, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
APR 22 1893
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

APR 26 1893

Subject

The proposed establishment of a gold standard in India

Synopsis

The China Association protests against such action.

One enclosure.

No 1648.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, March 2nd, 1893.

To the Honorable
John W. Foster,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to
enclose a clipping from the
Shanghai Mercury of the 11th
ultimo, relating to the proposed
establishment of a gold
standard in India and the
close of the Indian mints.

The China Association at
Shanghai is a local branch
of the same Association in
London

1/1648

It will be seen that the paper sets forth strong arguments against the adoption of a gold standard in India.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

1. Clipping from Shanghai Mercury, Feb. 11th 1893.

Enclosure in No 1648.

Clipping from Shanghai Mercury Feb. 11th 1893.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

The following letter has been sent to us by Mr. W. H. Talbot, Honorary Secretary of the local branch of the China Association :—

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION IN SHANGHAI,
February 10th, 1893.

R. S. GUNDRY, Esquire,
Honorary Secretary,
CHINA ASSOCIATION,
LONDON.

SIR,—A general meeting of the members of the China Association in Shanghai was held on the 23rd of January; and among other subjects for consideration was the probable effect upon Foreign trade in the Far East of the adoption by India of a gold standard, and the close of Indian Mints to further rupee coinage. In the result, the newly-erected Committee was deputed to frame a resolution to be forwarded to you, with a short statement of the principal grounds upon which the resolution is based. The Committee, realising the urgency of the matter, have given to it the consideration the limited time at their disposal permitted; and have agreed upon the following resolution :—

"That the Local Committee of the China Association in Shanghai request the China Association in London to watch all proposed legislation in connection with gold and silver, especially measures exclusively relating to India for the establishment of a gold standard there, and the close of the Mints; action which, in the opinion of the Local Committee, must be highly prejudicial to commerce in the Far East."

In support of this resolution the Local Committee beg to lay before the Association the reasons on which they rely.

I—China, Japan, and generally all countries east of British India, are silver monometallic; silver retaining its value as a standard for all commodities except those imported from gold monometallic nations.

II.—With the opening of China to Foreign commerce, British subjects acquired interests which appeal for protection to the Imperial Government equally with the interests of their fellow subjects resident in the India Empire. The settlement of British subjects in Treaty Ports and Crown Colonies has necessitated large expenditure in land and buildings, and the establishment of indispensable adjuncts of trade in the form of Banks, Insurance, Shipping, Dock, Wharf, Warehouse, Land, Building and Industrial Companies of various kinds, employing a vast amount of capital; all of which is imperilled by the threatened demonetization of silver in India, which will virtually be the outcome of exclusive currency legislation for that Empire; legislation which must inevitably injure that portion of British enterprise and commerce, founded and fostered under the treaties of trade and commerce made by Her Britannic Majesty's Government with the nations of the Far East, which is dependent upon silver as currency.

III.—Whatever may be the eventual results, it is certain that trade, which has taken years to build up, must be seriously disturbed without compensating advantages: whereas if the ratio of the currencies in use in India be established by general international consent, instead of being confined to India, trade between China and India will not be disturbed; the quantity of silver will be always the same, while exchange will be governed by the usual conditions.

IV.—The appreciation of gold in Great Britain has tended surely and steadily to divert the supply of certain cotton manufactures for Chinese consumption from Great Britain to British India; the variations in exchange between the latter country and China, both silver using countries, being confined within a known range.

V.—The preceding paragraphs point more especially to the injury which the isolated action referred to will entail upon British interests in China: other results, affecting identical interests in India and China, must follow.

VI.—An illustration of the growth of Chinese consumption of an article which now forms an important and valuable export from British India, the manufacture of which has stimulated the production of cotton, and led to the establishment of industries there, in which considerable capital has been invested, is cotton yarn. This trade has developed within the last ten years on a silver basis, the currency common to producer and consumer alike; and if this common currency be disturbed this important trade will, for reasons shown in paragraph X, be lost to India probably without benefit to Great Britain.

VII.—The statistics following are taken from the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Returns, the separation of Indian and English imported yarn not being shown prior to 1889.

Total Imports, 1882 to 1888 :—

	Piculs.		*Value.*
1882	184,939 ...	Taels.	4,505,000
1883	228,005 ...		5,242,000
1884	261,457 ...		5,584,0 0
1885	387,82 ...		7,871,00
1886	384,582 ...		7,8 , 0
1887	592,687 ...		12,547,00
1888	683,468 ...		13,427,00
From Great Britain—			
1889	50,144 ...		1,077,0 0
1890	88,349 ...		1,797,000
1891	73,058 ...		1,507,000
From India—			
1889	628,413 ...		11,884,000
1890	993,145 ...		17,5 7,0 0
1891	1,138,683 ...		19,397,000

These statistics show that the import of Indian yarn alone in 1891 exceeded the total import of all cotton yarn in 1882 by 515 per cent. in quantity and 331 per cent. in value.

The value of the 67,000 tons weight of yarn imported from India into China in 1891, at the low rate of exchange of 220 rupees per 100 dollars, is 653 lakhs of rupees; and there are indications of further increase year by year.

Japan is also a large consumer of Indian made yarn.

VIII.—Although the consequence of closing the Indian Mints and establishment of a gold standard may be to rise in India the sterling equivalent of a rupee to 1s. 6d., 1s. 9d., or 1s. 10½d., the purchasing power of the rupee within the Indian territory will not be increased: as a symbol of native value its quality will be unchanged.

IX.—While the rupee will remain as a coin in India with the same purchasing power as before, beyond India it will have an artificial value ranging from 20 to 50 per cent. to be made good in exchange. The effect will be the same as if an export duty of 20 to 50 per cent. were levied on yarn, to be borne by the producer.

Example.—The Indian spinner can now sell 10,000 dollars worth of yarn for 22,000 rupees; and the Chinese consumer is prepared to pay 10,000 dollars, plus charges, because he cannot manufacture for himself on equal terms. If the exchage value of the rupee be artificially raised to 1s. 6d. and the spinner still receives 22,000 rupees, as before, the Chinese consumer must provide 12,000 dollars, plus charges, to meet the fall in exchange between China and India. This difference of 20 per cent. enables him to supply his own wants by home manufacture; and if the Indian producer cannot compensate for the difference in exchange in the price of his yarn, he must forego the sale to China.

X.—China is already a large producer of cotton, the cultivation of which can be considerably extended should the demand increase. A gold standard in India will most probably operate to close the China market to Indian made yarn, by stimulating production of the raw material and the establishment of manufactories in China for the supply of domestic requirements.

XI.—The creation of a gold standard for the silver rupee currency is equivalent to the establishment by the Imperial Government of a bimetallic ratio within the boundaries of the Indian Empire; while beyond, consequent upon the unwillingness of the Imperial Government to accept international bimetallism, the rupee is merely silver bullion. This seems to be an admission by the Imperial Government, but confined to India only, of the bimetallic principle.

XII.—It is to be noted that the India producer asks and receives no more for his yarn than 22,000 silver rupees; that is 7,562½ ounces of silver; and that can be made the cost to consumer equally by international extension of the bimetallic principle involved in creating a gold standard for a nation having its currency in silver.

XIII. From the foregoing paragraphs it has, the Local Committee believe, been made abundantly clear that the trade between India and China will be greatly disturbed in the event of a gold standard being adopted in India, solely on account of the relative effect such a radical change on the currency would have on exchange between the two places. It is equally certain that all other places further east than India, would suffer in like manner in any exchange transactions between such places and India: while the effect generally on the value of silver and on the exchange between China and countries with a gold standard in event of silver being practically demonetized in India, is too apparent to require any further remark in this letter: whilst under existing circumstances the advantages, if any, would probably be entirely to the Chinese as against Europeans or European capital invested in China.

XIV.—Generally, the Local Committee believe, that any exclusive action in relation to Indian finance such as that supposed to be in contemplation, must affect most injuriously the trade which has been built up in China, more especially in connection with Great Britain. Already the disturbance which has resulted from want of combined action, and as a consequence of spasmodic speculation, in connection with the precious metals, has seriously discredited China trade. The tendency of late has been to withdraw funds from the Far East, on account of the depreciation in the relative value of the local currency. Business is consequently hampered; and the ever-widening difference between the cost of production of fabrics such as, for instance, those manufactured in Lancashire and Yorkshire, and the price required in silver to meet that cost, threatens to make such trade impossible.

XV.—The effect of a marked further depreciation in the value of silver, such as must inevitably follow upon Imperial legislation favourable to India alone, will be seriously detrimental to the export trade to the Far East in cotton and woollen fabrics, among other merchandize; and it deserves earnest consideration: for the reasons here given, therefore, the Local Committee request the China Association to take such action as may seem to them expedient and prudent for the protection of British mercantile interests in the Far East which at present are greatly imperilled.

We are,

Sir,

Your obedient servants,

JOHN MACGREGOR, *Chairman.*
R. M. CAMPBELL,
CHARLES DOWDALL,
C. J. DUDGEON,
J. W. HARDING,
E. B. SKOTTOWE,
W. H. TALBOT, *Hon. Secretary,*

Forming the Committee of the CHINA ASSOCIATION IN SHANGHAI.

File

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File.
APR 25 1893

No 1649.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 3rd, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
APR 22 1893
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

Subject

The police system of Peking

Synopsis

Description of police system. General Commandant and staff. Salaries. Officers in outer City. Stations. Arrests and crimes. Drunkenness. Prostitution. Signals. Punishments. Prisons. Courts. Population.

No 1649.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 3rd, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

The Chicago Exposition has created an immense demand in the United States for information concerning China. This legation has supplied this information touching many matters affecting the laws, customs and trade of China.

As the most of these subjects have

have been discussed in despatches to the Department, I have not deemed it necessary to treat them again.

It does not, however, appear that the "Peking Police System" has ever been described in any communication to the Department. Having had occasion, recently, to send an account thereof to one of my numerous correspondents, I think it advisable to send it to the Department, so that other inquirers may avail themselves thereof, should you deem it important enough to appear in the "Consular Reports".

The Police System

The

The police system of Peking is conducted by what is termed the Office of the Gendamerie, under which a force recruited from the Eight Banner Corps is placed. The men of this force, numbering from fifteen thousand to twenty thousand, are distributed in squads at guard stations throughout the city and suburbs. The head of the police is an officer of the first rank styled General Commandant of the Gendamerie. He has charge of the nine gates of Peking. This officer is generally a President, or Vice-President, of one of the Metropolitan Boards.

Staff

Staff of the Commandant.

This officer is supported by the following staff viz.:

Two police provosts, officers of the second rank;

One deputy provost of third rank A;

One assistant deputy provost of third rank B;

One major of police, fourth rank A;

One captain of police, fifth rank A;

One lieutenant of police fifth rank B;

One deputy lieutenant sixth rank A;

One controller of alarm signals of fourth rank A. This officer fires a gun when, in case of emergency, all the members

of

of the force are required to turn out.

The General Commandant

The General Commandant is a Manchu named Fu Kun. His officer is a Grand Secretary, Minister of the Foreign Office, Chief Controller of the Board of Revenue and Controller of the Imperial Household.

Salaries

The salaries paid these officers are as follows:

General Commandant taels 1884 and 90 piculs of rice per annum.

Two police provosts, each, taels 1254 and 75 piculs of rice.

Two deputy provosts, each taels 984 and 65 piculs of rice.

Two

Two assistant provosts each taels 984 and 65 piculs of rice.

Twenty-four majors, each taels 782 and 52½ piculs of rice.

Twenty-four captains, each taels 384 and 40 piculs of rice.

Three hundred and thirty-six lieutenants, each taels 348 and forty piculs of rice.

Seventy-two deputy lieutenants, each taels 308 and 30 piculs of rice.

One controller of alarm signals taels 782 and 52½ piculs of rice.

Officers of Police in Outer City

The officers of the police in the outer city are as follows viz:

		Salary	Rice
1	Colonel	taels 1354	piculs 77½

	Salary	Rice
Four Lieutenant Cols.,	taels 984,	piculs 65;
Five majors	884,	65;
Five first captains	782,	52½;
Seventeen 2nd captains	348,	40;
Forty six lieutenants	348,	40;
Ninety two sergeants	226,	22½;

One hundred and five 2nd sergeants 94 to 164, 17 to 20, being senior and junior sergeants.

Police Stations

There are 719 stations and 1300 sub-stations, including stations outside of the Imperial City and in the outer city. About 14,000 men are distributed among these stations. In the Imperial City there are 8 special stations, each in charge

charge of a lieutenant with a detachment of 120 men.

The pay of a policeman is 1½ taels per month with a small rice allowance.

Arests and Crimes

It is impossible to furnish statistics of the number of arests during any given year or of the number and kind of crimes committed, as none are published. From the crowded condition of the prisons and the number of public executions, it is safe to say that crime is very prevalent.

Drunkenness

As to drunkenness, which has been particularly inquired

about

about, it does not exist to as great an extent as in Western countries, the use of opium having greatly superseded the consumption of intoxicating liquors.

Liquors are sold in Peking without license but an octroi, or likin duty, is paid on them when they are brought through the city gates.

Police Signals

The signals of the police from station to station are made by word of mouth, that is by loud cries or yells. No telegraphic or other modern system, such as exists in Western cities, is in use in Peking.

Houses

charge of a lieutenant with a detachment of 120 men.

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Homes

Houses of Prostitution

Houses of prostitution are not licensed. They are tolerated in localities which are not objectionable to the public. They are subjected to occasional raids and compelled by the police to pay annual tribute. No statistics on this subject are obtainable.

Punishments for Crime

The punishments now inflicted for an infringement of the law are:

1. Flogging with the bamboo.
2. Banishment within a limited distance for a limited time, or permanently.
3. Death – of which there are

three

three modes – slicing or cutting to pieces, strangling and decapitation.

Some minor punishments are inflicted by the use of manacles of wood or iron fetters, and by the cangue, a species of stock consisting of a heavy framework of wood in which the neck and hands are confined. An instrument for compressing the ankle bones and fingers may be lawfully used for torture, but many other curious modes of torture are also used.

Prisons

There are a great many prisons in China. Every prefectural

and

and magisterial city and
many other Lare prisons.
There are as cheerless (and
disgusting) as any place can
be. The prisoners are all
huddled together. There are
no furniture nor any comforts
provided and the fare is
usually nothing but millet.
It not infrequently happens
that prisoners freeze to death.

Courts

The Board of Punishments has
the control and direction of
punishments throughout the
Empire, and has also civil —
jurisdiction to some extent. In
connection with the Court of
Censors and Grand Court of
Revision

Revision (which department exercises a general supervision over the administration of the criminal law), the Board of Punishments is the highest or supreme court of the Empire, though the cases brought before it are mostly criminal.

If the judges are not unanimous in their decisions, these must be reported to the Emperor, who will pass final judgement.

In the provinces the judicial commissioner, or judge, constitutes the highest court, but, in some cases, an appeal lies to the Governor-General or Governor of the province, who

pronounces

pronounces judgement. An appeal then lies to Peking.

Courts inferior to the court of the provincial judge are those of the intendant, prefect and local magistrate.

The right of appeal from lower to higher courts is recognized and constantly exercised.

There are no juries in court procedures. It is believed that the Chinese do not desire juries. (There is an almost univeral want of confidence among them in each other, and the submission of questions to twelve men instead of one would, it is thought, result

in

in an increase of corruption, which is now prevalent in all classes.)

Population of Peking

The population of Peking, including the outer, or what is commonly called the "Chinese City", is estimated at thirteen hundred thousand.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack with approval.
Adh
APR 25 1893

APR 20 1893

No 1650.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 6th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
APR 22 1893
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The mortuary building at Ningpo.

Synopsis

The minister demands its removal to another site.

One enclosure.

No 1650.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 6th, 1893.

To the Honorable

John W. Foster,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to

1/1650 enclose, herewith, a copy of a communication to the Foreign Office, wherein I insist that a deadhouse, lately erected in the limits of the foreign settlement at Ningpo, should be removed to another site.

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Mr. Denby to the Foreign Office

Note, March 7th, 1893.

Enclosure in No 1650

Mr. Denby to the Foreign Office

Note. March 7th 1893.

Your Highness and
Your Excellencies:

I beg to inform Your Highness and Your Excellencies that the foreign residents at Ningpo are in great apprehension, on account of the erection of a building in the foreign settlement, designed to be used for the purpose of storing dead bodies and placing them in coffins.

This building is situated in the foreign settlement close to private residences, and, in order to reach the recreation ground, persons must pass within a few feet of it. Corpses taken to it would have to be carried through the streets and would pass either in front or rear of

nearly

nearly every foreign residence.

According to the proposed regulations, bodies may be kept in this mortuary depository for three months. Corpses of people dying suddenly in the vicinity - meaning the whole settlement - also corpses found floating in the river, and those landed from steamers are to be conveyed to this building and there prepared for burial.

It is plain that the transportation of bodies, which will most likely be putrid and in a state of decomposition, through the streets of the settlement, and the retention of them so close to human habitations, will be very dangerous to the health of all the residents, whether they be natives or foreigners. There are many native residences close

to

to this building.

In the event of the bodies of persons who died of cholera, or other infectious disease, being placed in this building, it is not doubted that an epidemic would break out in the settlement, the consequences whereof would be dreadful.

The British and American consuls have had an extensive correspondence with the taotai on this subject but no relief has yet been afforded.

Although the land on which the foreign settlement is located has not been leased to any foreign power, still it has been for many years treated by the native authorities as being within the jurisdiction of the foreign consuls, and these officials have always been consulted by the local officials in matters affecting the welfare

of the residents of the settlement. In this case no consultation was had.

While repositories for the dead are necessary institutions, they are always located at places which are remote from human habitations. A due regard for the health of the living demands such location and in no wise detracts from proper respect for the dead.

The Minister of the United States earnestly hopes that Your Highness and Your Excellencies will direct the removal of this objectionable building to some other site. There are many sites contiguous to Ningpo which would be far more suitable and convenient and the erection of a building on one of these would not constitute a peril to the public health.

(Sigd) Charles Denby.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
APR 25 1893
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 26 1893

No 1651.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 10th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 22 1893
RECEIVED.

To Treas 26 May

Acld 31 May

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The effect of the recent Exclusion Act in China.

Synopsis

China is investigating as to number of Americans and orphan asylums. Fears of missionaries as to retaliation. Probabilities of retaliation. Danger of anti-foreign riots.

№ 1651.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 10th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the Chinese Government has lately been making investigations as to the number of Americans in China, and their location, also as to the number of orphan asylums maintained by Americans.

Of these institutions there is

but

№ 1651.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 10th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the Chinese Government has lately been making investigations as to the number of Americans in China, and their location, also as to the number of orphan asylums maintained by Americans.

Of these institutions there is

but

but one in China. It is located at Zenfield near Shanghai.

It is greatly feared by the missionaries that the purpose of there investigations is to enable the Chinese Government to formulate some plan of retaliation, in case the recent Exclusion Act is put into execution.

The American residents in China are getting up petitions to Congress to repeal that act.

I have, received no information that retaliatory measures will be adopted. As there are no American laborers in China, it is plain that it is imporsible to adopt any

measure

measure of exclusion which will be reciprocal.

I doubt that any actual retaliatory plan will be adopted, at least until an opportunity has been afforded the newly elected Congress to pass on the question of the repeal of the act of May 5th 1892.

There may, however, be unpleasant recriminations against Americans, the refusal of permission to locate in the interior in places not now occupied, and a general tendency on the part of officials to impede missionary work.

2t

It is to be noted that, hitherto, in dealing with this legation in matters of claims for damages and other questions affecting American interests, there has been no discrimination against us on account of the alleged hostile legislation, and no pretence of refusing justice to Americans on that ground. While, as the Department is aware, the Foreign Office has sent many communications to the legation bearing on the exclusion acts, still, in the discussion of business matters, this subject has not been intruded.

The fact that this legation

has

has not now pending any claim against China sufficiently shows that the Chinese Government has not been influenced by resentment to the extent of failing to do what ought justly to be done.

Formerly, except in the two southern, or Canton, provinces, little or no attention was directed to the relations between the two countries but, owing to the establishment of Chinese papers here and there, and the assumed position of secretary for foreign affairs by Li Hung-chang, who is the viceroy of this province, by degrees information has been spreading

touching

touching the subject of exclusion.

Our missionaries have sometimes reported to me that the subject has been broached by local officials, in the northern part of this province.

It cannot be doubted that China has drawn from the riots of 1891 the conclusion that some restriction should be placed on missionary work outside of the treaty ports. What form any governmental action may take is not known, but it is surmised that an effort will be made to regulate and control by official supervision the orphan asylums, whose existence was one of the

Causes

causes of the riots of 1870 and 1891.

Should any considerable number of Chinese laborers be deported to Kuangsi and Kuangtung, from which provinces they emigrated, it is greatly to be apprehended that anti-foreign riots will ensue.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 28 1893
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY:
Give to Press.
Mr. Reinsch may print in Cons. Repts.
Ack & file.
APR 28 1893

No 1652.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 14th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The Chinese telegraphic system.

Synopsis

It is now joined to the Russian lines. Points of junction. Number of stations.

(Report copied by Bureau of Statistics for publication)

No 1652.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 4th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that, by virtue of the Russo-Chinese Telegraph Convention, an abstract whereof was sent in my despatch No 1629, of January 15th last, the Chinese land telegraph line has been joined to the Russian system. Messages can now be sent to any part of the world from

Omit

from any telegraph station in China.

Since the negotiation of this convention, the cable companies have added fifteen per cent to their charges, but messages may be sent over the Chinese lines for the same price as heretofore — $2.00 per word, the cost of transmission across the Atlantic being added.

The Chinese system now reaches Kelampo in the north, where the connection is made with the Russian lines, and Aichow, in Hainan, in the south; Wenchuen in Kirin in the northeast, and Takao in Formosa in the southeast;

Sudow

Suchow in Kansu in the northwest and Tengyueh, close to the Burma frontier, in the southwest. The only province which is not reached by telegraph is Hunan, which still remains indomitably opposed to all foreign innovations.

There are 4 stations in Anhui; 8 in Chekiang; 11 in Chihli; 4 in Korea; 9 in Fukien; 10 in Formosa; 3 in Heilungchiang; 1 in Honan; 7 in Hupeh; 6 in Kansu; 4 in Kiangsi; 4 in Kirin; 9 in Kwangsi; 34 in Kwangtung; 2 in Kweichow; 3 in Shansi; 14 in Shantung; 2 in Shensi; 6 in Singking; 6 in Szechuan, and 10 in Yunnan, or 167 in all.

The

The service is rapid and satisfactory. Parties sending messages have the right to designate whether they shall go over the cable lines or the land lines.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Referred to Bureau of Statistics
Ack. as Mr. Reinick... may advise
APR 28 1893
aab

DIPLOMATIC
APR28 1893.

No 1653.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 14th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 28 1893
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The falling off in the China tea trade.

Synopsis

The cause stated to be export and lekin duties. Statistics showing the decline.

No 1653.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, March 14th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

From statistics recently published, it appears that during the season of 1892-1893 just closed, the export of black tea from China to Great Britain amounted to only 52½ million pounds as against 117 millions in the season of 1887-88, and 169 millions in the season of 1880-81, a decrease

of

of 116½ million pounds in 12 years, and at the rate of 13 million pounds per annum.

A writer in the North China News ascribes this disastrous state of affairs to the crushing taxation on tea. The export duty is Haikwan taels 2½, or say Shanghai taels 2¾, per picul (133⅓ lbs) The likin taxes average about taels 2¼ per picul. The average cost of black tea in North China this season is about taels 20 per picul duty paid. The tax is, therefore, more than 30% on the cost of tea delivered at a treaty port. On sound common tea, which costs about

taels

taels 11 per picul duty paid, the taxation exceeds 80 per cent on the cost.

It is to be noted that the British treaties of 1842 and 1858 fixed the duty on tea at Haikuan taels 2½ per picul. This amount was to represent an ad valorem rate of 5 per cent. If the intent of these treaties were carried out an ad valorem rate of 2½ per cent would now be only about ¾ of a tael per picul. The treaties, unfortunately, cannot now be revised until 1898.

As the Department has been frequently informed by this legation, strenuous efforts have been

been made to secure a reduction of the duties. In 1887, when all foreigners were requested by the Tsungli Yamên to suggest remedies to avert the decline of the tea trade, the almost unanimous answer was that the taxation ought to be abolished. The Inspector-General of Imperial Maritime Customs then concurred in this opinion, but, August 31st 1888, he wrote "I am of opinion that it is "useless to touch either export "duty or lekin".

It was then suggested that model tea farms should be established in various parts of China for the instruction

of

of tea growers. This scheme was never carried out but on the contrary a farm in Formosa was abandoned.

The Inspector General recommended that a certain small tax called the "shanli", or hill tax, (being about 1/4 penny per pound) ought to be repealed for the benefit of the growers, but even this was not done.

The writer in question proceeds to show that the trade lost by England does not go to other markets. These markets are chiefly Australia, North America and Russia. To Australia, China has shipped this

this season only 14½ million pounds of black tea, as against 21 million in 1880-1881. Australia takes, in lieu of China teas, untaxed British teas.

China has shipped to North America this season 31 million pounds of black tea, against 24½ million in 1880-1881, and to Russia (via Odessa and via Tientsin) 25 million pounds of black tea, against 15¾ million in 1880-1881. In these two cases the taxation does not much affect the trade, as British grown teas are not largely consumed in those two countries ~~to any appreciable extent~~.

China

China ships to North America the bulk of her green teas. These teas have to face the competition with Japan teas, which pay an export duty of only $1. per picul. Fortunately for China, only the principal kind of green teas (Young Hyson) comes into direct competition with Japan leaf, so that the decrease is much less serious than it otherwise would be. The export this season was 15 3/4 million pounds against 19½ million in 1880-1881. The export of Japan teas to North America has increased from 39½ million pounds in 1880-1881 to 47 million for the

part

past season 1892-1893.

From these figures it will be seen that the value of trade unaffected by the taxation is comparatively small.

It is scarcely to be doubted that the general interests of trade and commerce, as affecting Chinese as well as foreigners, lie in the direction of a reduction of taxes on this important article. I have, however, little hope that the government of China will realize the situation.

This government pays little regard to trade and commerce, especially in the lines in which foreigners are interested.

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Bureau of Statistics

Copy & Enclosure
Apr. 28/93

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 28 1893
RECEIVED

APR 28 1893

No. 1654.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 14th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Forwards Customs Gazette.

Enclosure filed
in Bureau of Statistics

No. 1654.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 14th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward by this mail, under separate cover, duplicate copies of the Customs Gazette, Oct-Dec. 1892.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

No 1655.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 28 1893
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack by subject - In view of Mr. Denby's statements, the matter would seem to be proper for local adjustment, to aid which his gold orders may be used so far as may be proper.
APR 28 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 18th, 1893.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
APR 28 1893

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The Ningpo mortuary.

Synopsis

The Yamên declines to direct its removal.

One enclosure.

No 1655.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 18th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Secretary of State

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1650 of March 6th, I forwarded a copy of my communication to the Foreign Office, wherein I requested the removal of a building recently erected in the foreign settlement at Ningpo, to be used for mortuary purposes.

I now enclose a translation of the answer of the Foreign

1/1655

Office

Office to that communication.

The Yamen minutely recites all the proceedings in the matter and concludes that "it would be no easy matter" to have the objectionable building removed.

In this affair the foreigners were very negligent. They stood by and saw the building go up without making objection until it was completed, or nearly so. The Taotai proposed to remove it if $500 were paid. I believe that suggestions have been made to the foreign residents at Ningpo to raise and pay this sum. This plan would probably be the easiest

way

way out of the difficulty.

Her British Majesty's Minister and I will continue to press the question if it is not settled locally.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby, informal note March 15th 1893.

Enclosure in No. 1655.

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby.

My. March 15th 1893.

Your Excellency:

Upon the 7th instant, the Ministers had the honor to receive a note from the Minister of the United States, to effect that the United States consul at Ningpo had reported that a building had been erected at that port, to be used as a mortuary, situated in the foreign settlement close to private residences, and, in order to reach the recreation ground, persons must pass within four or five feet of it; that corpses taken to it would have to pass either in front or rear of foreign residences; that the bodies of those who died of infectious diseases, it is feared, would result in an epidemic breaking out in the place; that the British and American

Consuls

consuls have had considerable correspondence with the Taotai on the subject but no relief as yet has been effected, and the Minister of the United States earnestly hopes that the Prince and Ministers will direct the removal of the building etc.

With regard to this matter, the Taotai at Ningpo some time since reported to the Yamên by note that the gentry of the districts of Chin, Zzu and Chen of the Ningpo jurisdiction, had presented a petition stating that foreign trade is carried on on the Yung River, and steamers are constantly plying to and fro. It frequently happens that passengers die en route (to Ningpo) and there being no place where corpses can be guarded, the gentry and others purchased a site and erected a mortuary with a view of thus preventing

the

the bodies of the dead from remaining exposed and unintened. The regulations proposed were submitted to the Taotai with the request that he would issue his instructions.

The erection by the gentry of a mortuary is entirely for the good of the place. The regulations to govern it have been well and properly framed and the Taotai issued his order permitting the scheme which was kept in store and a communication was sent by him to the foreign consuls at Ningpo upon the subject which is a matter of record.

The United States consul afterwards writes to the effect that, as the mortuary is so close to the foreign residences, the corpses might pollute the air and result in the spread of an epidemic; he, therefore, requested that it

be

be removed elsewhere.

Now it appears that the place where the mortuary is erected is some distance from the consulates; it is a quiet and not a busy place and in no wise can effect those living in the neighborhood. To place dead bodies there for a time is decidedly different to having them remain exposed abroad and lying about unintered, and it will not result in the spread of an epidemic.

Further, inquiries were made of the Commissioner of Customs and the police and foreigners connected with them, and they all declared that there was nothing prejudicial in the enterprise to the interests of foreigners. Several discussions on the subject ensued with the consuls but they would not give way, were firm and resolute and unreasonable in their views. The Taotai, therefore,

had

had a consultation with the gentry and it was decided not to carry into effect the original scheme of building a wharf and an outhouse or open shed of three rooms. The other building being about completed, it is no easy matter to now stop operations. A communication was accordingly addressed to the consuls but they were dieratisfied at the Taotai finally not having ordered the removal of the institution elsewhere.

It appears that this is a matter concerning the native place, is for the convenience of the mercantile classes and is worthy in its nature. The gentry have devoted a great deal of time and spared no trouble in managing the affair; they have collected contributions and started the institution and it is by no means an easy matter

to

to order them now to relinquish the object undertaken.

The Ministers would state that the institution in question is one that affects the interests of the place and is worthy in its object and, from the representations made by the Ningpo Taotai, it would be no easy matter to have it moved elsewhere.

In sending this note in reply, the Ministers have to ask that the Minister of the United States will take a considerate view of the matter.

Cards of Ministers with compliments.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 28 1893
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 29 1893

No 1656.

Rec'd April 29th.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 19th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Appointment of Mr. Yen Ching Chung as deputy consul.

Synopsis

Mr. Denby awaits instructions before asking exequatur.

No 1656.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 19th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No 771, of January 23rd last, enclosing a certificate of the appointment of Mr. Yin Ching Chung, a Chinese subject, as United States deputy consul at Amoy, and directing me to ask for his recognition etc.

I

In my despatch No. 1618, of January 3rd last, I informed you that the Chinese Government positively declined to grant exequaturs or orders for the official recognition of Chinese subjects in foreign consular positions. I omitted to state that I distinctly informed the Yamên of the duties of a deputy consul, as prescribed in the consular regulations, but I did not enter upon any general discussion of the right of a foreign power to appoint a Chinese subject to office, deeming it best to await your instructions.

I find in Wharton's International

Digest

Digest Vol. I, § 118, that "it
"is not usual to grant an
"exequatur to any officer below
"the grade of vice-consul".

Mr. Tsin can discharge his
clerical duties without any
recognition from the local
authorities. If, however, he comes
in contact officially with the
local officials his position
would be embarassing. I have
informed the consul at Amoy
of the position taken by the
Yamên. Possibly Mr. Tsin can be
of service to him without a
conflict arising with the local
officials. Should such conflict
arise, he should resign or
his appointment should be

cancelled

cancelled.

I await your instructions as to whether I shall present to the Yamên Mr. Irin's certificate and demand his recognition.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No 1657.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 28 1893
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ask congratulating Mr Denby on his succession to the deanship.
APR 28 1893

and 29th

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 21st, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Mr. von Brandt resigns as doyen

Synopsis

Mr. von Brandt's resignation leaves Mr. Denby doyen of the diplomatic body at Peking. Causes of Mr. von Brandt's departure.

No 1657.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 21st, 1893.

To the Honorable

Secretary of State

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that Mr. von Brandt, Minister of Germany, has retired from the position of dean of the diplomatic corps, which he has filled for many years, and that I succeed him.

Mr. von Brandt proposes to leave Peking in a few days and to proceed to Seoul, Corea,

at

which place he will be married to Miss. Heard, daughter of the American Minister, Hon. Augustine Heard.

His retirement from China is the source of profound regret to most of the foreign residents. He has distinguished himself by the display of great ability and by a studious regard for foreign interests.

I mention <u>confidentially</u> the cause of his resignation. A rule exists in the German diplomatic service that its employees shall not contract marriage with foreign ladies. Mr. von Brandt was aware of this rule but, as his fiancee

speaks

speaks German, and as there is, properly speaking, no native court at Peking, and only a few foreign residents and as his standing was high with his government, he thought that an exception would be made in his case. Without informing his government beforehand, he became engaged to Miss Heard, an American. When he asked the consent of his government to the alliance, he was met by a positive refusal. No course was then left to him except to resign his position as German minister.

The cooperative policy which

has

has so long happily prevailed in China has latterly received a severe shock, owing to the difference existing among the ministers as to the question of audience, of which an account was given in my despatch №1617, of December 30th last. The representatives of Russia, France, Belgium and perhaps Spain, have not been friendly to Mr. von Brandt for some months.

My own relations with all of them are, however, of the best, and I hope that by degrees the diplomatic corps will become harmonious.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 28 1893

No 1658.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 28 1893
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Usual course.
APR 28 1893

Treasury
Military

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 22nd, 1893.

To Treas 29th

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Foreign trade of China for 1892.

Synopsis

Statistics given as furnished by the Customs.

{Copy of Report filed in Bureau of Statistics for publication in Commercial Relations.}

No 1658.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 22nd, 1893.

To the Honorable

Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to make the following report on the foreign trade of China for the year 1892.

Value of the foreign trade

The total value of the foreign trade was Hk. Hs. 237-684-723 as against 234.951.712 in 1891. These figures do not include goods carried coastwise nor in

in Chinese junks, which are not under the control of the imperial maritime customs.

Customs revenue

The customs revenue for 1892 was Hs. 22.689.054 as against 23.518.021 in 1891 — a decrease of Hs. 828.967.

The decrease occurred in imports, opium duty and likin.

Foreign trade

The average fall in sterling exchange during 1892 had an injurious effect on the foreign trade of China. The average value of the haikuan tael in 1891 was 4 s. 11 d., and in 1892 4 s. 4½ d. Several banks failed or were reconstructed. Interest

on

on loans was raised and credit became contracted. Several failures of old established houses occurred.

Imports

The net total value of the foreign import trade amounts to Hs 135-101-000 or Hs 1-097-000 over 1891.

Cotton goods fell off Hs 583-000 as compared with 1891, but grey, plain and white shirtings and T-cloths increased. Drills, jeans and sheetings declined. American sheetings fell off 682.000 pieces.

Turkey red cottons fell off. Cotton lastings, velvets, velveteens held their own. Handkerchiefs increased.

Jewels

Towels fell off. English yarn declined while Indian yarn rose from 1-138.000 piculs to 1.254-000 piculs. Cheap silver accounts for this rise and fall.

Woolen goods gained slightly. Metals, except lead, manufactured copper and spelter, declined. Rice fell off 736.000 piculs. Indian cotton fell off. American kerosene declined 7-464-000 gallons and Russian 1-350-000 gallons. This diminution is the effect of a glutted market and not of diminished consumption. Matches increased.

Coal, biche de mer, seaweed and sugar largely increased.

Exports

The

The value of the export trade was Hs. 102-583-000 as compared with 100-947-000 in 1891 — a gain of Hs. 1-600-000.

Tea and silk, the two great staples declined. The decrease in tea was 127-353 piculs. The demand of Russia fell off owing the famine in that country.

The export of white silk increased but yellow silk declined. The total diminution is piculs 194, but the value increased.

Raw cotton amounting to 508-800 piculs was exported, chiefly to Japan.

Beans enormously increased amounting to 1-142-500 piculs, going chiefly to Japan.

Feathers

Feathers, fire crackers, hemp, horns and leather held their own. Chinese clothing, boots and shoes were largely exported as also fish and fishery products and paper and rice.

The foreign trade in skins and rugs - sheep, goat and dog skins - rose to Hs. 1-315-000 from 881-000 in 1891. Straw braid rose from 79-212 piculs to 87.273 piculs. Sheep and camels wool rose to 173-400 piculs. In 1882, this product was only 22-750. This increase is largely due to the fact that the United States tariff imposes a small duty on this article.

Shipping

Of vessels entered and cleared in 1892 there were 37-927 of 29-440-575 tonnage.

The representation of the most important countries was as follows: number of British vessels 18-973; vessels of foreign type owned by Chinese 8-246; Chinese junks 6.286; German 2.016; Japanese 719; American 111; Swedish and Norwegian 260.

Trade with the United States

The imports to China were in value Hs 6.061-900; the exports from China were Hs. 10.784-655, a total of Hs. 16.846-555 as against 16.765-382 in 1891.

Of-

Of black tea 209.603.18 piculs and of green tea 307.923.44 piuls were exported to the United States.

Foreign population

There are 579 foreign firms in China and 9.945 resident foreigners. The British have 363 firms and 3919 residents. The Americans come nest with 31 firms and 1312 residents.

Treaty ports

There are twenty two ports open to foreigners, of which the largest, Canton, has 1.800.000 population and the smallest, Mengtzu, 12.000.

General remarks

It will be seen from the above

figures

figures that China imported in 1892 32½ millions in tael value more than she exported. But the progress of trade is much more satisfactory when viewed in the light of the revenue earning department. The customs revenues have gone up from 14½ millions in 1880 to 22.689.054 in 1892 but they fell a little below the receipts in 1891. This result, apparently inconsistent with the increased volume of trade, is explained by the customs statistical writer as follows: "That the

"exceptionally high aggregate
"values of the trade of 1891
"should have been maintained

with

"with a decrease in revenue
"and in the quantity of
"staple goods landed and
"shipped, is ascribable to
"the great depreciation in
"the gold value of silver
"which enhances the market
"value of imports and
"allows of higher prices being
"paid for exports destined
"to gold-currency countries
"without adding to the
"laying down cost".

In the tonnage employed in the foreign and coast trade of China there is an ever growing increase.

In tonnage Great Britain easily leads, being nearly

Twenty

twenty times as large as that of Germany which comes next.

Under the head of Treasure, Mr. Kopsch records a total net export of gold to the value of Hs. 7.332.000 and silver to the value of Hs. 4.825.000 or 12.157.000 in all. These figures only show the amounts which pass through the custom house. It is known that large quantities of the precious metals are brought into China by Chinese passengers returning from the Straits and elsewhere.

The imports into China, deducting import and opium

duty

duty, exactly balance the exports with duty and 8 per cent on market value added for charges. There must, therefore, be an unrecognized import of gold and silver to balance the export of these metals above stated.

For further information in detail as to the trade of China in 1892, I refer you to "Returns of Trade and Trade Reports for the year 1892", published by the foreign customs, of which two copies have been forwarded under separate cover.

The latest United States Treasury valuation of the

Haikwan

Haikuan tael, to which the foregoing figures relate was $1.01.

The picul is equivalent to 100 catties, or 133½ pounds avoirdupois, or 60.453 kilogrammes.

The catty is 1⅓ pounds avoirdupois.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Rec'd from Mr. Denby Apr. 28.
Rec'd to Mail Apr. 28, 93

No. 1659. Archives File

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 28 1893
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 28 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 22nd, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

List of Chinese lighthouses etc.

No 1659.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 22nd, 1893.

To the Honorable

Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward, under separate cover, duplicate copies of the "List of the Chinese Lighthouses, Lightvessels, Buoys and Beacons for 1893."

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No. 1660.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 1st, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 23 1893
RECEIVED.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject —

Enclosing Statement of Salary Account for Quarter ended March 31st, 1893.

——— - - - ———

No 1660. One Enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 1st, 1893

To the Honorable

Secretary of State

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my account for salary for the quarter Ending March 31st 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Statement as above.

No 1661.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 1st, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
MAY 23 1893
RECEIVED.

— Wm. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —

Enclosing statement of Rent Account for quarter ending March 31st, 1893.

No 1661. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 1st, 1893.

To the Honorable

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of the Rent Account of this Legation for the quarter Ending March 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Statement as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
MAY 23 1893
RECEIVED.

No 1662.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 1st, 1893.

— Wm. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —

Enclosing statement of passports issued during quarter ended March 31st, 1893.

Passport Bureau
May 22, 1893

No 1662. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 1st, 1893

To the Honorable

Secretary of State

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of the visés of passports issued at this Legation during the quarter Ending March 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1-

Statement as above.

Rec'd by Mr Gresham

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 23 1893

No 1663.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 1st, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 23 1893
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledging receipt of despatches

No 1663.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 1st, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches as follows:

No 772 of February 20th, No 773 of February 21st, Nos 774 and 775 of February 24th and No 776 of February 25th, 1893.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Aus. Dft aak
MAY 23 1893
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 23 1893

No 1664.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 1st, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 23 1893
RECEIVED.

Ack'd June 5th '93. Mc

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

Subject

Acquisition of land by Americans in China.

Synopsis

New rule declared by the Nanking officials. Mr. Denby directs the acting consul at Chinkiang to disregard it.

One enclosure.

No 1664.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 1st, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have received from Mr. W. R. Carles, H. B. M's Consul at Chinkiang, in charge of United States interests during the absence of Consul Jones, a translation of a communication from Tai Taotai and the Commissioners of the Nanking Bureau of Foreign

Affairs

Affairs, a copy whereof is herewith enclosed.

1/1664

This communication relates to the leasing or purchasing lands for churches, hospitals or cemeteries by American citizens. One of like character was addressed to Mr. Carles as British Consul and related to British missionaries. It recites that frauds have been perpetrated on missionaries in the purchase of land and it is ostensibly designed to protect them, but the real purpose is to make it impossible for them to acquire land at all. To that end the rule is laid down that "henceforth

when

"when missionaries, or other
"citizens of the United States,
"desire to acquire land or
"houses, no matter where,
"they must first meet the
"gentry and elders of the place,
"and agree with them, and
"then report to the bureau of
"local officials for an official
"survey of the ground".

This clause introduces a new element in the mode of acquiring land. Article 12 of the Treaty of 1858 does not require that citizens of the United States desiring to purchase land shall submit the question to the decision of the gentry and elders. It leaves

them

them free to purchase land, enjoins that the prices shall not be exorbitant, prohibits the local authorities from interfering unless objections are offered on the part of the inhabitants respecting the place, requires legal fees to be paid, provides that particular spots shall not be unreasonably insisted on, and enjoins justice and moderation.

The clause above quoted from the communication of the Taotai is so distinctly antagonistic to the above article of the treaty that I have directed Mr. Carles to notify the Taotai that it will

will not be acquiesced in or acted on by this legation.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Copy of despatch from Bureau of Foreign Affairs Nanking to Mr. Jones, Feb. 11th 1893.

Enclosure in No. 1664

Bureau of Foreign Affairs at Nanking to U. S. Consul.

Feb. 11th 1893.

Hai, Taotai and Commissioner of the Nanking Bureau of Foreign Affairs, makes a communication to Consul Jones.

Missionaries and other citizens of the United States at Nanking, when leasing or purchasing houses or lands, for churches, hospitals or cemeteries, before they obtain the lease are required by regulations to report the matter to the local authority, who, after satisfying himself that the feng shui of the neighborhood is not interfered with, authorizes the completion of the conveyance, and after registering the sale as required by law, affixes his seal to the deed held by the

purchaser

purchaser-

Such has been the regular course of procedure, but of late a lot of scoundrels have devoted themselves to making money by fraudulent dealings with foreigners in lands, the titles of which are complicated or obscure. There are few who fail to fall into their traps, so clever are the arguments which they employ. They are naturally afraid that, if an official inspection is made of the land, it will be difficult to blind the eyes of the authorities, and the missionaries, through their anxiety to settle the affair quickly, neglect to take thought for the future and are tricked by these men into not complying with the regulations. Later on when the rights of the case have been officially represented by the

gentry

yentry, the local authorities have attempted to effect some satisfactory arrangement with the missionaries and have discovered to them the fraudulent tricks with the object of affording them protection, but the latter obstinately glors over the wrong doing and refuse to accept any compromise, with the result that in end there are delays which extend over many years without a settlement of the case being arrived at, an instance of haste not effecting speed.

Although among the missionaries there are some who have no lack of intelligence, who transact their business in conformance with regulations, there are others who are played upon to acquire land too hastily.

This Bureau has, accordinly, laid down a plain rule that

henceforth

henceforth, when missionaries, or other citizens of the United States, desire to acquire land or houses, no matter where, they must first meet the gentry and elders of the place and agree with them and then report to the Bureau and local officials for an official survey of the ground. On its being found that the feng shui of the neighborhood is not prejudiced, the execution of the conveyance will be ordered, and the official tax receipt and title deed will be sealed and forwarded through this Bureau to your Consulate for delivery.

This course will prevent complications and expedite matters while diminishing correspondence, one measure thus securing several good objects. The Consul's intimate knowledge of the circumstances of the case will

doubtless

doubtless induce him to readily accept this course of action.

It is the Taotai's duty accordingly to communicate with him and to express the hope that he will see fit to give instructions to missionaries that, in future, when leasing or purchasing land or houses, they must conform to these rules, and will also inform them that if the rules are intentionally defied and irregular sales or purchases are effected, deeds for such lands will not receive the official seal, irrespective of whether the titles are complicated or not. If missionaries and others purposely set the regulations at defiance and are outwitted, this Bureau and the local officials must decline to entertain any question of complication arising therefrom.

This

This Bureau in asking thus is prompted by the desire to take precautionary measures to safeguard foreigners' interests.

A necessary communication.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 23 1893

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack by subject & file
MAY 23 1893

Wash 24 May

No. 1665.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 23 1893
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 4th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Payment of claims for riots at Ichang in 1891.

Synopsis

The Yamên reports the details of the settlement with the Principal Mission.

One enclosure.

No 1665.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 4th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1646 of the 20th February, I had the honor to inform you that the claim of the American Episcopal Mission, for damages done to its property by a mob in the fall of 1891, at Ichang, had been settled and paid.

I now transmit a translation

1/1665 of a communication from the

Foreign

Foreign Office which recites the circumstances in detail. It will be seen that the original claim was for taels ten thousand. The consul demanded interest, but the Chinese never pay interest. Taels eight thousand were offered and accepted. This compromise was the voluntary act of the representatives of the mission, with which I had nothing to do.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Foreign Office to Mr. Denby

April 2nd 1893.

Enclosure in No 1665.

Copy of translation

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby.

April 2nd 1893.

Sir:

The Prince and Ministers have the honor to state that in the matter of the destruction of missionary property at Ichang, in the months of August and September 1891, the Yamên sent repeated communications by wire to the Governor-General of the Hukuang provinces to lose no time in bringing about a settlement thereof.

On the 16th of November and the 8th of December 1891, telegraphic replies were received by the Yamên from the Governor General of Hukuang stating that seven of the leaders of the riot had been arrested and three accessories, together with nine others who were implicated, all of whom were tried before the deputies

&

of the Taotai and Prefect, and, from the evidence, it appears that at the time a lot of roughs and lawless fellows caused the disturbance and set fire to the property of the foreigners.

The Provincial Judge reviewed the case and, while no injury was done to human life, it was decided that, under the law laid down in the code, one of the culprits should be banished to a remote military port, two be transported 3000 li, four to wear the cangue and five to be punished with the bamboo.

The French consul repeatedly stated that the punishment to be inflicted on the guilty was a matter which the Chinese officials must themselves decide, and the English consul did not attend the trial to watch the proceedings. Hence it was proper

to

bring the matter to a close, so
r as the punishment of the
ten was concerned. As to the
estion of indemnity, the claims
the French were already
anged, leaving the English
d American claims unsettled.
the 9th day of the 10th Moon of
18th year of Kuang Hsü, the
mên received a despatch
om the Governor-General of
kuang, stating that Bishop
one, an American missionary
ed claimed reparation in the
m of 10.000 taels for the
amage done to the property
his mission at Ichang, but
e Customs taotai offered 8000
els, stating that the Americans
ly had one place and the
lue thereof was not large,
nd, in companion with the
ench and English missionary
operty, the amount offered was
lly adequate to meet all losses.

Mr.

Mr. Consul Andrews, however, wrote a communication claiming interest. This the officials refused to grant and stated that if the case was not speedily brought to a close the fault would rest with himself.

On the 29th of the 1st moon of the 19th year of Kuang Hsü, the Yamên received a communication from the Governor-General of Kwikuang, stating that the 8000 taels offered had been accepted by the American missionaries, and a deputy appointed by the taotai had handed the money, on the 21st of the 10th month to the American consul, who had acknowledged the receipt thereof by an official communication, and the case was, therefore, closed.

In the matter of the above case, the Prince and Ministers would observe that the guilty parties have been tried and punished

the

the missionaries have been
indemnified for the losses they
sustained and, as in duty
bound, in sending this communication
to the Minister of the United
States, they have to request
that the case be cancelled.

Sep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 6th, 1893.

Mr. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Salary account.

Two enclosures.

Dep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 6th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose my salary and exchange accounts for the quarter ending March 31st last.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

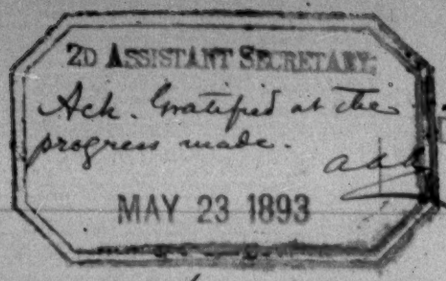
Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Second Secretary.

Enclosures:

Accounts as above



124 many

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.

MAY 23 1893

No 1666.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 7th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Builders wages in Peking.

No 1666.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 7th, 1893.

To the Honorable,

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The construction, now under way, of the new offices for this legation affords an interesting opportunity to obtain some statistics as to the building industry in Peking.

Labor of all kinds, both skilled and unskilled, in China is notoriously cheap, and builders form no exception

to

to the rule. The workmen employed on the new office building number about forty, varying from day to day. At their head is an overseer, whose wages per day are 3 tiao 6, or about 24¢ United States currency, and who supplies his own food. Under this overseer are thirty or forty masons and carpenters who are of two classes. First, ta kung, or superior workmen, who receive the equivalent of 11¢ per day and three meals. They have the option of supplying their own food, in which case they receive 16¢ per day, or 5¢ additional. Second

Liao

hsiao kung, or inferior workmen, who receive 2¾ cents per day and three meals. In case they supply their own food they receive 5d per day additional, or about 8d in all. Some carpenters of superior ability receive wages at a higher rate than the above, amounting to 25d or 30d a day. These, however, are few in number, and are employed only on the more difficult part of the woodwork.

The food furnished by the contractor consists of three meals daily viz. at 6 a.m., 12 m., and 6 p.m. Only old rice and salted vegetables

are

are supplied, all three meals being the same. It is said to cost the contractor about 3½ cents per day for this food, not counting cook's wages and fire. Less than 5¢ per day is the total estimated cost per man.

It is an unwritten part of the contract between the contractor and his employees that they are to have, in addition to the time allowed for meals, two interims for rest a day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, of about twenty minutes each. To a Western observer this would seem an entirely

unnecessary

unnecessary indulgence, for no workmen in the world have so mastered the art of dilatoriness as the Chinese. They move about their task with a deliberation which could scarcely be increased without becoming entire repose. The consequence is that many men here will not perform the work which could easily be done by one American, and the advantage of individual low wages disappears in the greater number which it is necessary to employ.

It is a curious commentary on the management of public funds in China that carpenters

and

and masons employed on government buildings insist on receiving, and do receive, higher wages than for private work. The profits of such contracts are known to be large and employees, supported by powerful guilds in each trade, demand a division of the spoils. The result is that of funds appropriated for public buildings and other improvements only about sixty per cent is actually spent as ostensibly intended.

The laying of cement foundations for buildings is, in Peking, a specialty of a certain class of workmen

who

who do nothing else. The
contract for foundations is
let to a subcontractor at
so much per square foot. The
usual building foundation
consists of a mixture of seven
parts earth to three parts
lime thoroughly mixed and
put down wet. It is then
rammed with light wooden
mallets and afterwards
made firmer still by a very
effective Chinese instrument
called a ruo. This consists
of a heavy disc of iron lifted
by a number of coolies, by
means of ropes attached to
its rim, and allowed to fall
heavily on the cement from a

height

height of about seven or eight feet. The coolies engaged in this operation keep time by all joining in the chorus of a song the verses of which are chanted by a by-stander, who seems to take no other part in the work. The shouting of this chorus by a dozen lusty voices is the inevitable accompaniment of foundation building in China, and is persisted in with a perseverance which almost leads one to believe that walls could not be built without it.

An observation of the attitude of contractor toward their workmen seems to show that

that the lower orders of
laborers are possessed of certain
privileges and are not devoid
of means of insisting on their
recognition. No such thing as
oppression or ill-treatment is
ever attempted. The coalition
of laborers into guilds for the
advancement of their interests
is an ancient institution in
China, and recent instances
have not been wanting to
demonstrate the power of the
humblest classes to assert
their views, and obtain
recognition of them before
the most exalted tribunals.

It is hoped that the
new offices will be completed

and

and ready for occupation during the month of July.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 23 1893
RECEIVED

No 1667.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 10th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —
Enclosing Statement of
Contingent Expenses Account
for Quarter Ended March 31st 1893.

— . . . —

No 1667 One enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 10th, 1893

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham

Secretary of State

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of the Contingent Expenses Account of this Legation for the quarter ended March 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1— Statement as above.

Recd by ltr Feb

No. 1668.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 28 1893

Legation of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 23 1893
RECEIVED.

Peking, April 14th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Acknowledging despatches

No 1668.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 14th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's despatches as follows:

No 777 of February 27th, No 778 of March 1st, No 779 of March 3rd and the Department's circular, of the 21st February, with reference to hours of labor of government employees.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No 1669.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
MAY 23 1893
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 14th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —

Enclosing statement of account for Loss by Exchange for quarter ended March 31st, 1893.

No 1669. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 14th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham
Secretary of State.
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my account for Loss by Exchange for the quarter Ending March 31st 1893.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant.
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Statement as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 23 1893
RECEIVED.

Separate.

Legation of the United States
Peking, April 14th, 1893.

— Wm. F. D. Sherman —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —

Enclosing statement of
salary Account for quarter
Ending March 31st, 1893.

———

Separate. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 14th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my account for salary for the quarter ended March 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

C. D. Cheshire.

Enclosure 1.

Statement as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 26 1893
RECEIVED

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File.
MAY 26 1893

No 1670.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 17th, 1893.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 26 1893

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

The Women's Congress at Chicago

Synopsis

Mr. Denby encloses an answer to the Chairman regretting that the invitation to China to send delegates came too late

One enclosure.

No 1670.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 17th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have received from Madam May Wright Sewall, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements for a World's Congress of Representative Women, at the Chicago Exposition, a communication wherein she requests me to extend an invitation to the Government

of

of China "to name as official
"delegates to the World's
"Congress two women of influence
"x x x"

I have been compelled
to express to Madam Dewall
my regret that her communication
reached me too late to be of
any avail, and I have sent to
her a communication a copy
1/1670 of which is herewith enclosed.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Mr. Denby to Madam May Wright
Dewall, April 15th 1893.

Enclosure in No 1670.

Copy.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 15th, 1893.

Madam May Wright Sewall
Chairman of the Committee
of Arrangements for a World's
Congress of Representative Women,
Indianapolis, Ind., U. S. A.

Dear Madam:

I have the honor
to acknowledge the receipt
this day of your valued communication
without date, wherein you request
me to extend an invitation to
the Government of China "to name
as official delegates to the World's
Congress two women of influence" etc.

The date of your reception of
this letter will sufficiently show
that it is impossible to designate
representatives from China and
have them reach Chicago by May
15th, when the Congress begins.

This fact would be the subject
of regret to me if it were not

perfectly

perfectly certain that China would, in no event, have sent as delegates two ladies such as you describe.

I do not wish to put myself on record as intimating that China does not possess such ladies, but the status of woman is such that the government would not for a moment dream of sending any woman abroad to a Woman's Congress.

I will briefly state the reasons for this opinion. Woman's sphere in China is totally different from man's. The sexes from the earliest infancy are kept apart. Women do not eat with their husbands, nor sit on the same mat, nor hang their clothes on the same peg with his clothes, nor use the same place to bathe in. The most earnest prayer of the women in the Buddist temples is that they may, in

the

the next existence be men. They are mostly secluded, do not mix in general society are not present when strangers call.

Woman's life is one of servitude to her own parents and of submission to the love of her husband. Even in the next world her life is one of bondage to her husband. The birth of a son gives her more dignity and standing. Man is the superior. The Chinese say, as heaven is to earth so is man to woman. She is taught perfect submission to the paramount authority of man.

It is considered highly indecorous for a guest to inquire after his host's wife. Because, as the Chinese say, the love of a parent or brother is inseparable and the love of a wife is not, love for these relatives should be greater than love for a wife. When you ask a Chinese gentleman how

many

many children he has, he mentions his sons only and not his daughters. Girls are not generally educated; sewing and embroidery constitute their accomplishments.

They have nothing to say on the question of marriage. Marriages are arranged by their parents for them at an early age. After this event the wife is lost to her own kin almost entirely and belongs to her husband's family. It is considered, in some parts of China, to be a high type of virtue for the widow to commit suicide when her husband dies.

Polygamy exists. A man may have any number of secondary wives. A widow cannot remarry but she may be a concubine.

This picture is gloomy enough; in practice, however, its evils are modified. As women grow old they are surrounded with respect and consideration. Mothers are

much

much loved by their children and grandmothers are venerated. In spite of woman's assumed inferiority, she asserts herself in the family circle with considerable success. In the country and among the poor, the rules above stated are not strictly observed and a great measure of freedom is enjoyed.

Let me add, in honor of Chinese women, that from 1860 for twenty years and more, China was ruled wisely and successfully by an Empress Regent. She will attain the 60th anniversary of her birth next year and the event will be celebrated with great pomp and ceremony all over the empire.

As this letter will not reach you until the Congress is over, I beg leave to tender my congratulations upon the great success that you no doubt will have achieved

and

many children he has, he mentions his sons only and not his daughters. Girls are not generally educated; sewing and embroidery constitute their accomplishments.

They have nothing to say on the question of marriage. Marriages are arranged by their parents for them at an early age. After this event the wife is lost to her own kin almost entirely and belongs to her husband's family. It is considered, in some parts of China, to be a high type of virtue for the widow to commit suicide when her husband dies.

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As this letter will not reach you until the Congress is over, I beg leave to tender my congratulations upon the great success that you no doubt will have achieved

and

and to express my profound regret that circumstances have made it impossible that I could contribute anything to a cause in which I take a deep interest.

I have the honor to be,
Madam,
Your obedient servant,
(Sgd) Charles Denby.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
MAY 26 1893
RECEIVED.

No 1671.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 17th, 1893.

— Wm. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —
Enclosing duplicate statement
of salary account for quarter
Ended March 31st, 18

No 1671. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 17th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate Statement of my Salary Account for the quarter ending March 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Duplicate Statement as above.

No 1672.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
MAY 26 1893
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 17th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —
Enclosing duplicate statement
of Rent Account for quarter
Ending March 31st, 1893.

———— - - - - ————

No 1672 One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 17th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate rent account of this Legation for the quarter ended March 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1-

Duplicate account as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
MAY 26 1893
RECEIVED.

Separate.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 17th, 1893.

— Wm. F. D. Cheshire —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —

Enclosing Statement of account for Loss by Exchange for Quarter Ended March 31st, 1893.

Separate. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 17th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my account for loss by Exchange for the quarter Ended March 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

F.D. Chesbrough

Interpreter of Legation

Enclosure 1. Statement as above.

No 1673.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 26 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 17th, 1893.

— Wm. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing duplicate statement of returns of passports issued during quarter ended March 31st, 1893.

Passport Bureau
May 22 1893

No 1673 One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 17th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate returns of passports issued at this Legation during the quarter Ended March 31st, 1893. 1673.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1 – Duplicate returns as above.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU. MAY 26 1893

No 1674.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE. MAY 26 1893 RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY. Ack. by Number and File. MAY 26 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 18th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Telegraphic rate from Peking to America.

Synopsis

Rate given. Controversy between land lines and cables.

№ 1674.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 18th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that, since the function of the Chinese telegraphic land lines with the Russian lines at Kelampo, the rate per word for messages from Peking to America via cables is as follows:

Boston, Montreal, New York, Brooklyn, Seaport, St John, N.B.

N.B. Mexican $2-35;

Baltimore, Philadelphia,

Washington, 2-40;

Chicago, Cincinnati,

New Orleans 2-45;

Denver, Portland, San Francisco,

Vancouver B.C. 2.50.

The Imperial Chinese Telegraphs charge this same rate for messages sent over the lines via Russia, but if a message is handed in at Peking marked <u>via cables</u> the Chinese Telegraphs charge the local rate between Peking and Shanghai. The cable companies — "The Great Northern Telegraph Company of Copenhagen" and "The Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph

Telegraph Company Ltd"— claim that this charge between Peking and Shanghai is unwarranted. They offer to refund the amount so paid on all messages sent <u>via</u> the cables. It would seem that, under the existing telegraphic convention the cable companies will get the mort of the traffic from the ports and the Chinese Telegraph Administration the mort of the traffic from the interior.

Naturally, this controversy between the rival companies suggests discussion touching a trans-Pacific cable. The managers of the Imperial Chinese

Chinese Telegraphs are greatly in favor of constructing a line across Bering Straits. Such a line, they claim, would be practicable and would cost much less than a cable.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
MAY 26 1893
RECEIVED.

No 1675.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 18th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —

Enclosing duplicate account for Contingent Expenses for quarter Ending March 31st, 1893.

No 1675. One enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 18th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate statement of the account for Contingent Expenses of this Legation for the quarter Ended March 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1— Duplicate statement as above.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR24 1893

Conf 2.

Conf ap. 93.

From Peking

Apl 22, 1893.

Gresham

Received M.

Washington

Foreign Office requests suspension enforcement exclusion act until a new Chinese Minister arrives. Left yesterday.

Denby.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
JUN 21 1893

No 1676.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 22nd, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1893
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Avid, of a a a
JUN 20 1893

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

The Exclusion Act.

Synopsis

Mr. Denby confirms telegram forwarding Foreign Office's request that Exclusion Act be suspended until arrival of new minister. — Depatch from Foreign Office enclosed.

One enclosure.

No 1676.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 22nd 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to confirm my cipher telegram of this date as follows:

"Foreign Office requests
"suspension of enforcement
"exclusion act until the
"new Chinese minister arrives
"left yesterday"

I also enclose a translation of the communication of the Foreign Office which contained the

the request to telegraph to you.

In acknowledging the receipt of this communication, I took occasion to say that it was doubtful whether, under the constitution and laws of the United States, the executive had the power to suspend the enforcement of a law, and that Congress was not in session.

As a good deal of imitation exists in official circles on account of the exclusion legislation, I deemed it best to wire you as requested.

It will be seen that the Prince and Ministers ask that

)

I request you to send a reply to their communication of August 5th 1892, which was enclosed in my despatch to Mr. Foster No 1569, of August 18th 1892.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby

No 3, April 19th, 1893.

Enclosure in No 1676

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby.

No 3. April 19th, 1893.

Upon the 28th of November 1892, the Prince and Ministers had the honor to receive a communication in reply from the Minister of the United States, relative to the new Exclusion Act passed by the Government of the United States against Chinese laborers, wherein he stated that he was still without any instructions from the Honorable Secretary of State as to the subject of the Yamen's communication, but it would afford him pleasure to transmit a translation thereof to his government.

The Yamen has duly noted the contents of the Minister of the United States' communication, but the Prince and Ministers

would

would observe that several months have elapsed since the receipt thereof, and they have not been informed as to whether the Honorable Secretary of State has sent a reply or not.

His Excellency Mr. Yang, who has been appointed Chinese Minister to the United States, is about to proceed on his journey, and the Prince and Ministers would request the Minister of the United States to telegraph the Honorable Secretary of State to postpone for the present the enforcement of the Act, which comes into operation on the 5th day of May 1893 "requiring Chinese laborers to procure certificates", until the arrival of Mr. Minister Yang, when the question can be discussed in a fair and amicable way thus manifesting a feeling of friendliness.

The Prince and Ministers would

also

also beg that the Minister of the United States will ask the Honorable Secretary of State to send a reply to the Yamen's communication of last year, August 5th 1892, wherein the terms of the new act were discussed, as this is a matter of importance.

A necessary communication addressed to H. E. Charles Denby.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Copy to Treasury Dept.
So ack.
JUN 13 1893

Encl 1 to ltr of 17 June

Further Desp 17 July '93. MS

No 1677.

Legation of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1893
RECEIVED

Peking, April 24th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

Subject

Proclamation of the Namhoi magistrate at Canton

Synopsis

Statement made that 100-000 Chinese were prevented from returning to the United States. Suggestion that statistics be procured from San Francisco Collector.

One enclosure.

No 1677.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 24th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to

1/1677 enclose a translation of a proclamation, relative to Chinese emigration to Mexico, which appeared in the Shanghai Mercury of the 15th instant.

This proclamation states that "owing to the coercive and "unjust measures of the United "States Government over 100.000

Chinese

"Chinese who had returned to
"China on a visit were prevented
"from returning back to their
"business in the United States,
"in consequence of which several
"thousands of them had entered
"Mexico".

I have no means of knowing
how many Chinese were prevented
by the operation of the "Scott Act"
from returning to the United
States, but I am sure that the
number thereof is grossly
exaggerated. I fear that such
exaggeration is made designedly
for the purpose of exciting
antagonism at Canton against
Americans. Statistics might be
procured from the Collector

at

at San Francisco showing the fallacy of this statement, and I would communicate them to the Foreign Office here.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Clipping from "The Shanghai Mercury" April 15th 1893.

Enclosure in No 1677.

Clipping from the "Shanghai Mercury" April 15. 1893.

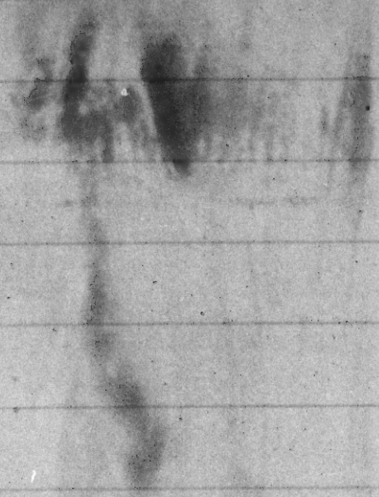
NOTES FROM CHINESE PAPERS.

A Prohibitory Proclamation.

The following proclamation dated the 5th inst. was posted at the different gates of Canton city recently :—

Be it known to all men that I, P'an, acting District Magistrate of Namhoi an official of the 4th brevet rank and expectant sub-Prefect of Kwangtung, have received orders from my immediate superior the Prefect of Kuang-chow-fu to the effect that H.E. the Viceroy of the Liang Kwang provinces has received a despatch dated the 1st of February last from the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên, stating that they have received a memorial from the Chinese Guild of San Francisco, in the U.S. of America complaining that owing to the coercive and unjust measures of the United States Government over 100,000 Chinese who had returned to China on a visit home were prevented from returning back to their businesses in the United States, in consequence of which several thousand of them had entered Mexico before the completion of a treaty between China and that country, whereby there were grave fears that these emigrants might receive ill-reatment at the hands of the people of that country who might follow the same lines of coercion as those practiced by the U. S. &c., The memorialists therefore prayed that instructions might be sent to the authorities of Kwangtung to issue proclamations probibiting the emigration of. Chinese from that province into Mexico at the present moment, and that people are not to go to Mexico until such time as a reciprocal treaty shall have been concluded between the two countries by which means proper protection will be afforded to all emigrating into the latter country. In obedience therefore to these instructions, this proclamation has been issued by me warning under severe penalties all persons from emigrating into the country of Mexico, and prohibiting "brokers" from enticing the unwary into going to the before named country.

Any violation of this proclamation will be met with no mercy, and people of all sorts and conditions are commanded to obey this important and special proclamation.



Separate.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
JUN 12 1893
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 25th, 1893.

— Mr. F. D. Chester. —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —

Enclosing duplicate statement of account for salary and account for loss by Exchange for quarter Ended March 31st, 1893.

Separate. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 25th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to Enclose duplicate statement of my account for salary and account for loss by Exchange for the quarter ended March 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

F.D. Chesheir.

Interpreter of Legation.

Enclosures 2. duplicate statements as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1893
RECEIVED.

No 1678.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 25th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing duplicate statement of account for Coin by Exchange for quarter Ended March 31st, 1893.

— — — —

No 1678. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 25th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham.
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a duplicate statement of my account for loss by Exchange for the quarter ended March 31st, 1893.

1678.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Duplicate Statement as above.

Archive Rule

No 1679.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 25th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1893
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledging telegram

№ 1679.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 25th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your cipher telegram of the 24th instant as follows:

"Until courts sustain "validity of the law it will "not be rigidly enforced."

I have the honor to be,

Sir, Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Packed to file

No 1680.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 27th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1893
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledging receipt of despatches

No 1680.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 27th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches as follows: No 780 of the 7th March; No 781 of the 11th March; No 782 and 783 of the 14th March, and of your circular of the 8th March with reference to additional quarantine regulations.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1893
RECEIVED

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Usual course
Ack.
JUN 13 1893

13 June

No 1681.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 2nd 1893.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JUN 13 1893

To Civil Service Comm'r
23 Nov. '93. M.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Reply to circular of 21st February

No 1681.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 2nd 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

In reply to the Department's circular of the 21st February, making inquiries as to the hours of labor etc., of government employees in China, I have the honor to make the following report. After replying to the interrogatories with a view only to the Chinese public offices, I make separate replies to them with

with a view to the foreign employees of the Imperial Maritime Customs Service.

The information supplied under this second head will, it is believed, be of more interest to the Department than that pertaining exclusively to Chinese Yamêns, whose methods have little resemblance to those of other countries.

Chinese Public Offices.

1. An official day's work in a Chinese public office is about five hours, sometimes more sometimes less. The employees are not on duty every day. They are divided into squads which present themselves

themselves for duty alternately. In some cases an employee is five days on duty and five off, or two on and two off, etc. According to another system very common here, an employee reports for duty on all those days of the month which contain a certain number. For example, one squad will be required to present itself for duty on the "three-eight days", that is the 3rd and 8th, 13th and 18th, 23rd and 28th; another on the "four-six" etc.

2. The time of beginning and closing of the day's labors varies in the different departments. In the Boards of Revenue, War, Public Works and Punishments,

work

work begins at about 11 or 12 o'clock and continues until 4 or 5. In the Yamēn of the Inner Council, work begins immediately after the morning audience with the emperor, about 3 o'clock A.M. and continues until 8 or 9.

In most departments there is a department cook who supplies food to those on duty so that no interval for lunch is required.

3. No regulation exists for holidays, they being applied for in each instance and, when granted, pay is allowed during them. There are no Saturday or Sunday holidays in China.

There

There is one month's vacation at the China New Year, one day the 5th of the 5th Moon, and one day the 15th of the 8th Moon.

No regulation exists as to the method of granting sick-leave.

4. The annual vacation is of one month's duration, viz. from the 20th of the last moon to the 20th of the 1st moon, or thereabout. During this vacation, known as the New Year vacation, all public offices are closed. Pay continues during this vacation.

5. Employees are paid quarterly, their pay being partly in silver and partly in rice.

6. There is no regulation as to

time

time of employment; practically, however, employees are secure during good behavior.

There is no retired list.

7. See last answer.

8. See last answer.

9. Entrance into the civil service is by competitive examination, appointment to office being made from the successful candidates. This remark does not, however, apply to a very large class of subordinate employees, or writers, who are appointed by the heads of the departments. The literary degrees which entitle the possessor to official employment may also be had

by purchase.

10. Females are not employed in any public offices in China.

I append to this report an account of the organization of three public departments which will give an idea of them all.

<u>The Foreign Office or Tsungli Yamen.</u>

Created by imperial decree in 1861, this Yamēn is composed of eleven ministers, all of whom are also ministers in other departments. The diplomatic business is transacted by four secretaries and two under-secretaries. They are alternately on duty from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. and occasionally appear before

Prince

Prince Khing, the President of the Foreign Office, at 3 a.m. at the palace and sometimes at the residences of other ministers. The salaries of these secretaries vary from $30 to $40 U.S. currency, per month.

Besides these secretaries there are about forty subordinate employees attached to the different departments of the office, as the American, English, French etc. There are ten of these employees also in the General Office. Nominations are first made to the General Office and the officials are then advanced to special departments becoming, in time, secretaries.

He

The salaries of these employees are from $12 to $25 per month, and they are on duty in turns from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M.

Board of Civil Office.

This Board regulates the appointment, transfer and promotion of officials. It consists of two Presidents, of whom one is Manchu the other Chinese, and who receive $180 per annum and an allowance of about 69 cwt. of rice. There are four Vice-Presidents with slightly smaller pay.

This board is subdivided into four departments having each two secretaries and two under-

under-secretaries who receive each $80 per annum and 5 cwt. of rice. There are in addition 4 clerks and 74 official writers.

The Board of Revenue.

The Board of Revenue has the same number of Presidents and Vice-Presidents as the Board of Civil Office. It is, however, subdivided into fourteen departments, each of which is devoted to the affairs of one or more provinces, and each of which is in charge of two secretaries, four under-secretaries and two clerks. In addition to these fourteen departments there are three

treasuries

treasuries, one for bullion, one for silk and one for general stores, each in charge of one secretary, two under-secretaries, one clerk, four constables and two writers. There are in all 122 writers employed in this Yamên.

The remaining principal public departments of the Chinese government are organized and conducted on analogous principles.

With reference to the Imperial Maritime Customs, I have the honor to answer the interrogatories of the Department's circular as follows.

1. Five hours constitute a day's work in the Inspectorate-General of Customs Peking.

2. The day's labors begin at 9. A. M. and close at 3 p. m. One hour, from 12 to 1, is allowed for lunch.

3. Saturdays from 12 o'clock and Sundays are holidays. Several days holiday are granted at the Chinese New Year, at Christmas and the foreign New Year. The 5th day of the 5th Moon, the 15th of the 8th moon and the emperor's birthday are also Customs holidays.

Sick leave is granted on the certificate of the physician in

the

the employ of the Customs and is at the discretion of the Inspector-General.

4. There is no annual vacation, but leave, for several days or longer, may occasionally be had on application. At the expiration of five years service two years leave on half pay is granted for the purpose of allowing the employees to visit their native lands.

5. Employees are paid monthly.

6. Employees are, with rare exceptions, appointed to the service at the age of about 20 years, entering at the lowest grade and being gradually promoted to higher grades.

The

The appointment is for life but the commission may be revoked at any time by the Inspector-General. There is no retired list but in lieu thereof one year's full pay is granted after every seven years of service.

7. ———

8. ———

9. Appointments to the Customs Service are entirely in the control of the Inspector-General, appointees being required to pass a qualifying examination. Candidates for vacancies are selected with the greatest care and only young men of irreproachable

character

character and standing are accepted.

10. Females are not employed.

The salaries of Customs employees, that is foreigners on the "indoor staff" only, are as follows:

Fourth Assistant	B.	Hk. Ts.*	900
" "	A.	" "	1200
Third "	B.	" "	1500
" "	A.	" "	1800
Second "	B.	" "	2100
" "	A.	" "	2400
First "	B.	" "	2700
" "	A.	" "	3000
Chief Assistant		" "	3600
Deputy Commissioner		" "	3600
Commissioners		" "	4800 / 6000 / 7500

* The Haikwan tael is worth U.S. currency $1.01

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

of Rolls & Library.
JUN 13 1893
Department of State.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JUN 18 1893

No 1682. Taken June 13 93

Legation of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1893
RECEIVED.

Peking, May 4th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Chronicle and Directory for 1893.

Forwards copy.

To the Library.
JMc 13/93.
A.A.G.

No 1682.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 4th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have directed one copy of the Chronicle and Directory for China, Japan, Straits Settlements etc, for 1893, to be sent to the Department of State by the publishers.

As I have had occasion to say heretofore, this is a most useful publication. The present volume

volume contains, at page 265, the new fee-bill adopted by this legation in 1889, and, at page 267, additional court regulations. It contains, also, other valuable new matter.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Rec'd by Mail.

No. 1683.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1893
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JUN 12 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 4th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledging circular

No 1683.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 4th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your circular of the 21st March, advising the appointment of Josiah Quincy, of Massachusetts, as Assistant Secretary of State.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
JUN 24 1893

No. 1684.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 8th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
JUN 24 1893
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

An Act granting quarantine powers etc.

Synopsis

A copy of the above act has been posted for ten days in the office of this Legation

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No 1684.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 8th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I received, on the 27th of April, your circular directing me to post for ten days in the office of this Legation a copy of the act of February 15th, 1893, entitled "An Act granting "additional quarantine powers "and imposing additional

duties

"duties on the Marine Hospital
"Service", together with a
copy of the regulations framed
by the Treasury Department.

I have now to report
that the "Quarantine Laws
and Regulations" have been
posted during ten days in
the office of this Legation.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No 1685. ✓ No. 111 Bowen

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JUL 3 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 18th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 3 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Congress of Electricians, Chicago

Synopsis.

Encloses despatch from Foreign Office nominating delegates to this Congress.

Q

One enclosure.

No 1685.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 18th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that the Chinese Government has accepted the invitation, tendered through this Legation, to nominate delegates to the World's Congress of Electricians at Chicago. Mr. Peng Kuang-yü, Secretary, and Messrs Zeng Shen and Shou Yen, recently

nominated.

nominated attachés to the Chinese Legation at Washington, will be ordered to represent China at this Congress.

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, a translation of the despatch from the Foreign Office on the subject.

1/1685

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Foreign Office to Mr. Denby

May 17th 1893.

Enclosure in No 1685.

Translation by
Chas. Denby Jr.
Second Secretary.

Mr. Denby from the Foreign Office.

Note May 17th 1893.

Your Excellency:

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note stating that, in connection with the World's Fair, it had been decided to hold a World's Congress of Electricians; that this Congress was to be of special importance, in view of the many questions relating to electrical matter as to which international concurrence was desired, etc.; and requesting the nomination of a delegate thereto.

The Yanen concurs in your appreciation of the importance of this Congress, and as it is to be held in connection with other Congresses, to which invitations have already been

received

received, it becomes the duty of the Yamen to instruct Mr. Yang, Minister to the United States, to delegate Mr. Peng Kuang-yii, Secretary of Legation, and two of the newly appointed attachés of Legation, Mr. Feng Shen and Mr. Shou Yen, as China's representatives thereat.

We enclose our cards with best wishes for Your Excellency's welfare.

2nd day of 4th moon.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ack by subject & file
JUL 3 1893

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 3 1893
RECEIVED

JUL. 5 1893

No 1686.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 22nd, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Proposed marine courts.

Synopsis

A proposal from the Consular Body at Shanghai to enter into negotiations with the Yamên to establish courts to hear cases where Chinese vessels are defendants.

No 1686.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 22nd, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In November 1892, Mr. Haas, Consul-General for Sweden and Norway, addressed a communication to Mr. Leonard, Consul-General for the United States and Senior Consul, in which he proposed, for the consideration of the consular body at Shanghai, the advisability of recommending to the Imperial

Chinese

Chinese authorities the establishment of marine courts in cases where vessels under the Chinese flag appear as defendants.

In this communication, Mr. Haas pointed out that the Chinese mercantile navy was daily increasing; that collision cases in which they were involved occasionally occurred; that the foreign courts gave ample and speedy redress when their respective vessels were at fault, but that there was no satisfactory tribunal when vessels flying the Chinese flag were the defendants. He goes on to state

state that several settlements recently effected have not given satisfaction, though the plaintiffs were contented to leave their case to be settled by arbitration — a method of settlement which does not always accord with the exigencies of extraterritorial jurisdiction. Mr. Haas proceeds to state that his proposal could easily be carried out with the assistance of the officials of the mariners profession employed in the maritime department of the Customs service.

His proposition was laid before the consular body on

The

the 30 November, and Mr. Haas was directed to obtain the opinion of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce on the proposed court. To inquiries addressed to it, this body replied, through their committee, that the proposition of Mr. Haas, as a general principle, met with their unanimous approval but, before committing themselves to any decided opinion on the question, they would like to know something further as to the constitution and powers of the court and what national law it would administer.

At a meeting of the consular

body

body, on the 27th of April, a resolution was adopted that the correspondence on this subject be transmitted to the diplomatic Corps at Peking, and that the foreign ministers be requested to enter into negotiations with the Yamên for the constitution of such courts. This resolution and copies of the correspondence were duly forwarded to me, as doyen of the diplomatic corps and were submitted by me to the other foreign representatives. The absence of the British minister from Peking, as well as a wish on the part of other ministers

to

to communicate with their
governments on the subject,
prevented any conclusion
as to probable action being
arrived at.

I have not considered
it necessary to forward
copies of the above correspondence,
the purport of which is
fully set forth herein, but
I will advise you of any
further action in the matter.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No 1687. Opportunity for Secy. to forward to U.S. Life Saving Service. Act Jan 5 1895

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JUL 8 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 26th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 3 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Life-saving service in China

Synopsis

Forwards Imperial Maritime Customs Report on the subject.

No 1687.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, May 26th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have forwarded to you, under separate cover, a copy of a recent publication, issued by the Imperial Maritime Customs, relating to Chinese Life-boats. Reports on this subject made by the Commissioners of Customs appear in this volume.

2

It appears from them that no life-boats or life-saving stations are established along the coast of China except on the coasts of Kwangtung. On those coasts the regulations provide that a life-saving station shall be established in each large village, or group of villages. A number of crews of vessels have been saved by this agency.

In the districts of Newchwang and Tientsin there are no special life-saving stations.

In the Chefoo district there are regulations requiring the

the formation of a station at every ten li (a li is 1/3 of a mile) of coast line, but they are not carried out.

In the Ningpo and Wenchow districts there are no stations.

Arangements exist in the Foochow district whereby the sea-coast is divided into sections of ten li, and a tipao (constable) is charged with the responsibility of attending to life-saving duties. People along the coast are required to assist him and rewards are given for special services.

Along the coast of Formosa and in the Amoy district there

Are

are no stations. In the latter district rewards are paid for life-saving services.

In the remaining districts: Swatow, Lappa, Kiungchow, Pakhoi and Lungchow, there are no stations and no special regulations.

On the Yangtze there is maintained an effective riverine service of life-boats which extends from Chungking to Kiangyin, at the mouth of the river, and has over one hundred stations.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby.

Ask July 12

No 1688.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 27th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 11 1893
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
The Exclusion Act

Synopsis.

Yamên asks the Secretary of State to direct the Supreme Court to declare act void, and to delay enforcement until H. E. Yang Yu arrives.

Two enclosures.

No 1688.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, May 27th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to
1 enclose, herewith, a translation
of a communication from
the Foreign Office to me,
relating to the recent Exclusion
2 Act, also a copy of my
answer thereto.

The substance of this
communication is that the
Yamên desires you to direct

the

the Supreme Court to declare the act unconstitutional. Comment on such a suggestion is unnecessary. The main purpose, however, is to request that enforcement be delayed until His Excellency Yang Yu shall arrive at Washington.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosures:

1. The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby
No 6 May 25th 1893.

2. Mr. Denby to Foreign Office
No 7 May 27th 1893.

Enclosure 1 in No 1688

(Copy of translation.)

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby.

No 6. May 25th 1893.

In the matter of the new law enacted by the Government of the United States restricting the immigration of Chinese laborers, the Yamên, on the 19th of April last, had the honor to address a communication to the Minister of the United States, requesting him to telegraph the Hon. Secretary of State to postpone the enforcement of the act until the arrival of Mr. Minister Yang, when the matter could be discussed, etc.

The Minister of the United States replied to the above communication stating that, on the 22nd of April, he sent a cablegram to the Hon. Secretary of State, as requested by the Yamên, and had received a

wire

wire in reply, wherein he informed him that the new act would not be rigidly enforced until the courts (Supreme Court) shall have passed on the validity thereof; that this determination will necessarily work some delay in enforcing the law and, if the courts should decide that the law is invalid, it will not be operative etc.

This action fully evinced, on the part of the Hon. Secretary of State and the Minister of the United States, a thoroughly sincere desire to be friendly in their dealings and relations (with China), which the Prince and Ministers certainly regard with joyful remembrance.

The Prince and Ministers have now heard that the Supreme Court of the United States has decided that the new

law

law is valid in a great many respects and still is operative.

Now it appears that the Yamên's request that the enforcement of the act be temporarily postponed until the arrival of Minister Yang, when the matter could be discussed, was truly for the very purpose of regarding and considering the relations of amity and friendly intercourse between the two nations, and that a plan of action be brought about in a harmonious and even-tempered spirit. Otherwise, as there are very many merchants and citizens of the United States resident in China, how could she not have been able to have enacted a new law (regarding them) and did not she only request the postponement of the enforcement

of the new act?

The Prince and Ministers have long been familiar with the fact that the Minister of the United States has been just and fair in the administration of affairs, having due regard for and considering everything concerning the relations of amity and friendship (between the two countries), and they now request that the Yamen's observations will be telegraphed at once to the Hon. Secretary of State, asking him, in turn, to make them known to the Supreme Court of the United States, and if it is competent to have the new law made null and void they will be still more grateful, but if it is not convenient to declare it abrogated then it should be examined as to whether it is in accordance with the

Constitution

Constitution of the United States, in order that a sense of justice and right may be made manifest and due regard shown toward a friendly power by nourishing a feeling of friendliness.

The Prince and Ministers would beg the Minister of the United States, in accordance with the Yamen's communication of the 22nd April, to immediately telegraph the Secretary of State to wait the arrival of Mr. Minister Yang when the question can be discussed. They hope that the Minister of the United States will favor them with an early reply for which they will be thankful.

Enclosure 2 in No 1688.

Mr. Denby to the Foreign Office

No 7 May 27th 1893.

Your Highness and
Your Excellencies:

I have the
honor to acknowledge the
receipt of the communication
of Your Highness and Your
Excellencies, of May 25th

Your Highness and Your Excellencies
state that, on the 19th of April
last, you addressed me, requesting
me to telegraph the Honorable
Secretary of State to await
H.E. Mr. Yang's arrival etc; that
I answered stating that I had
telegraphed the Honorable Secretary
and had received a reply that
the decision of the Supreme Court
would be waited for before
rigid execution of the Exclusion
Act; that you have now heard
that the Supreme Court has
decided that the new law is

constitutional

constitutional. Your Highness and Your Excellencies proceed to request that the enforcement of the law be suspended until the arrival of H.E. Mr. Yang. You further state that you could have enacted a new law affecting Americans in China and did not do so. You request me to telegraph your observations to the Secretary of State to have them made known to the Supreme Court and, if it is competent to have the new law made null and void, Your Highness and Your Excellencies will be grateful, but, if that is not convenient, then it should be examined as to whether it is in accordance with the Constitution of the United States.

I have the honor to inform Your Highness and Your Excellencies that the Government

of

of the United States is based on a written constitution which defines the powers and duties of the Executive, judicial and legislative branches of the government, that the judicial branch is independent of the other branches and is supreme, and that the executive has no power or authority to control, dictate to, or even make suggestions to the Supreme Court. Besides the Supreme Court has adjourned until the fall. The case heard before it involving the constitutionality of the Exclusion Act has been decided and finished forever.

For these reasons it is impracticable to telegraph as you request, but a copy of your communication to me will be immediately forwarded to the Secretary of State by mail. The purpose that Your Highness

and

and Your Excellencies seek to accomplish — that is the delay in enforcing the exclusion act until the arrival of His Excellency Mr. Yang — will, however, be accomplished. The Congress which passed the recent act failed to make appropriations with which to carry it into execution. Under our form of government, specific appropriations are necessary to carry out specific laws. The government, therefore, finds itself without money to provide for paying the expenses incident to the execution of the recent act. It will be necessary to suspend its execution until the Congress has passed the necessary appropriation bill. Congress will meet in the month of September next and, until that time, the recent act will not be rigidly executed.

I see by the papers that H.E. Mr. Yang is at Shanghai awaiting embarcation for Washington. Unless he meets with extraordinary delays, he will arrive in time to counsel with the authorities at Washington before the session of Congress. I sincerely wish that he may be able to formulate some plan that will prove satisfactory to both the nations interested therein.

No 1689.

One copy to Treasury 11.93

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 11 1893
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JUL 11 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 30th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Forwards Customs Gazette.

One copy filed in Bureau of Statistics

No 1689.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, May 30th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward, under separate cover, duplicate copies of the Customs Gazette for the quarter January to March, 1893.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

File

DIPLOMATIC

JUL 31 1893

No 1690.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 13th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 31 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Despatches received.

No 1690.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 13th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches as follows: No 789, 790, 791 and 792 of the 29th April last, No 793 of the 1st, and No 794 of the 3rd May last.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack & file
aad
JUL 31 1893

No 1691.

JUL 31 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 14th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 31 1893
RECEIVED.

Ackd. aug 1/93 P.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The Chinese Imperial Customs.

Synopsis

Some account of the rise and progress of this institution.

No. 1691.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 14th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

On the last anniversary of the Queen's birthday - May 24th - Sir Robert Hart, Inspector General of Imperial Maritime Customs, was made a Baronet.

This gentleman had already received nearly all the honors that China could bestow. He received a piece of silk with the names of

his

his three immediate ancestors inscribed thereon in five colors. This is a higher honor than the yellow jacket. Another special decree also conferred buttons of the first rank on his immediate three ancestors, for his able administration of the Customs. The effect of this decree was to ennoble his ancestors for three generations.

The rise and progress of the Customs Service constitute remarkable events in the history of China. Inaugurated in 1853, after the Tai Ping rebels had captured Shanghai, for the temporary collection

of

of customs duties on foreign bottoms, the institution proved so effective that it became permanent.

The indoor staff of the Imperial Customs is composed of foreigners only. In the outdoor staff there are many Chinese. The Inspector-General is the supreme autocratic head. He has absolute and unquestioned control. Immediately below him are thirty three Commissioners, who are generally stationed in the open ports. The next rank consists of twelve Deputy Commissioners. There are, then, about one hundred and thirty three first,

second

second, third and fourth assistants; also clerks numbering twenty one; miscellaneous eighteen and twenty one surgeons. Exclusive of the surgeons, the in-door staff numbers two hundred and eighteen. The out-door staff numbers three hundred and fifty four, consisting of tide-surveyors, assistants, boat-officers, examiners etc.

The Customs Service has charge of all the light-houses on the China coast, and the work of lighting is done in an admirable manner. There is also a small educational department, making a total

of 719 foreigners, 3.181 Chinese, or, in all, 3.900 employees.

The British out-number any other nationality, being 170 in number. There are in the service French, Germans, Americans, Italians, Russians, Portugese, Austrians, Spanish, Belgians, Dutch, Hungarians, Norwegians and others.

Sir Robert Hart succeeded Mr. H.N. Lay as the head of the Customs in 1863. He has performed his arduous duties with conspicuous ability. He is now regarded with the highest favor by the Chinese Government. He is more and more, day by day, being intrusted

with

with the administration
of difficult questions which
arise with foreign countries.
The receipts of the Customs
are honestly accounted for
and constitute a large
portion of the income of the
government. As long as Sir
Robert Hart lives, the system
that he has created will be
secure, but at his death
it is highly probable that
the Chinese Government will
resume control over its own
customs. In that event the
future of the institution
would become doubtful.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
AUG 18 1893

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
AUG 18 1893

Sep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 15th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 31 1893
RECEIVED

√ answered August 16/93 ALL

Mr. Chas. Denby Jr. to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Requests leave of absence.

Sep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 15th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to request a leave of absence with permission to return to the United States.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Second Secretary.

Approved

Charles Denby

Minister

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
To Interstate Commerce Commission
So ack
JUL 31 1893

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JUL 31 1893

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 31 1893
RECEIVED.

No 1692.

Aug 2-93

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 21st, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Railways in Northern China

Synopsis
Personnel thereof - Route
described. Probable extensions.

№1692.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 21st, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Mr. W. N. Pethick, our Vice-Consul at Tientsin, has resigned his position as Manager of the Chinese Railways and has gone to the United States. His departure has brought about several changes in the personnel of the railways. Chang Ching-chung, a grandson of Li Hung-chang, has been appointed

Director

Director-General of the imperial railway. This line commences at a place called Kuyen, which is about ninety miles from Tientsin, and extends to Shan-hai-kuan and past the Great Wall into Manchuria.

Chang Yen-mou, who is chief manager of the Tongshan colliery at Kaiping, has been appointed Director General of the Commercial Railway, which commences at Tientsin and goes through to Kuyen. The Assistant Director-General of the Imperial Railway is also a clansman of the Viceroy. The Assistant Director-General of both Imperial and

Commercial

Commercial Railways is
Wu Ting-fang, better known
as Ng Choy, who is a lawyer
by profession and speaks
English perfectly.

It will thus be seen
that the two lines of railway
are practically combined in one.

The portion between
Tientsin and Kuyen is owned
by the China Railway Company,
a private concern. The balance
of the line, as far as it may
be extended, is owned by the
Imperial Government. Two million
taels a year are appropriated
for its construction. Li Hung-
chang has supreme control
as far as Shan-hai-kwan —

beyond

beyond that point the road is controlled by the Governor-General of the province of Shing King.

The road has nearly approached Shan-hai-Kuan. It has often been described in my despatches, but it may not be out of place to indicate here its general direction. It may appropriately be said to start at Tientsin, to run thence down the bank of the Peiho River to Tongku, a place about a mile from the Taku Forts, which are near the mouth of the river.

From Tongku it goes to the Tong-shan coal mines and

thence

thence to Lanchow, a town on the Lan River. The distance completed is now one hundred and twenty miles. A bridge is being built over the river Lan which will require a year or more for completion.

The line is being constructed beyond the Lan River toward Shan-hai-kuan. It is said that the Viceroy forced the engineers to lay this part of the line out farther inland than they proposed in order to avoid attacks from the gulf.

Newchwang, the most northerly treaty port in China, will not be on the mainline to Moukden,

but

but a branch will be built from a point thirty miles from Newchwang. It is said that this branch will be extended to Port Arthur which is the great naval station of China.

Eventually this line will go to Kirin, a large town situated on the bank of the Songari. This road was devised as a military line in order to enable China to protect her frontier against Russian invasion, but the vast resources of Manchuria, if developped, would afford a great trade and commerce.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

No. 1693. Rec'd from Treasury Aug 16.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
AUG 9 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 26th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 9 1893
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Forwards Customs Reports.

REPORT FILED IN
Bureau of Statistics,
FOR PUBLICATION.

Filed in Bureau of Statistics

No 1693.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 26th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward, under separate cover, duplicate copies of the Customs Returns of Trade and Trade Reports for the year 1892.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Ans. by no. July

No. 1694.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
AUG 19 1893

TMENT OF STATE.
AUG 19 1893
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 30th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledging receipt of

despatches.

No 1694.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 30th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches as follows: No 795 of May 9th; 796 of May 12th; 797 of May 22nd; 798 of May 23rd; 799 and 800 of May 24th.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Copy to Postmaster Genl
So ack.
AUG 19 1893

No 1695.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 19 1893
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 1st, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Proposed imperial Chinese postal service.

Synopsis

It is reported that the scheme has been approved by the throne.

No 1695.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 1st, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

More than a year ago Sir Robert Hart proposed to the imperial government the establishment of a national Chinese postal service. It is now rumored that the throne has consented to the inauguration of the scheme.

As far as I can learn it is proposed to place a foreign

postal

postal superintendent at the capital city of each province. A European postmaster will be stationed at each prefectural city, with a staff of Chinese who speak English. The district cities and unwalled towns will be in charge of Chinese only.

It is supposed that the number of Europeans connected with the postal service will be about six hundred.

The new postoffices will be joined with the telegraph offices. The courier service, which has hitherto only carried government despatches, will be used in the new scheme,

but

but under European control. It will carry memorials to the throne from high provincial officials and all official correspondence. The private Chinese postal agencies, which are very numerous, will be abolished, but their personnel will be employed in the new service.

It will be some years before this system will be in use all over China. Its application will first be made at the open ports.

It goes without saying that the system will be of great benefit to all the people. Rates under the

system

system of private carriage are very high - From Peking to Shanghai costs per letter from 10^{d} to 15^{d}; from Peking to Canton 20^{d} to 25^{d}; Peking to Yunnan 50^{d}. In addition to postage, a "cumshaw", or wine money, is expected which amounts to as much more.

To the post-office scheme will be added the carriage of parcels.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No 1696.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 1st, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 19 1893
RECEIVED

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Enclosing Account for Salary for quarter ended 30th June 1893.

———

No 1696. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 1st, 1893.

To the Honorable,

Walter Q Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose my account for salary for the quarter ended June 30th, 1893.

1696.

I have the honor to be,

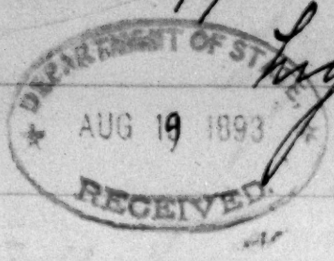
Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:- Account as above.

No 1697.



Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 1st, 1893.

—Mr. Charles Denby—
to the
—Secretary of State.—

—Subject.—

Enclosing Statement of Rent-account of this Legation for quarter Ended 30th June, 1893.

No 1697. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 1st, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham.

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of the Rent account of this Legation for the quarter ended 30th June 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1- Statement as above.

No 1698.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG. 19 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 1st, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —

Enclosing Account for
Loss by Exchange for quarter
Ended 30th June, 1893.

No 1699.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 19 1893
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 1st, 1893.

— Wm. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing Return of Passports issued during quarter Ended June 30th, 1893.

Pass Bureau — Aug 24/93

1699.

No 1699. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 1st, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a return of the passports issued at this legation during the quarter ended the 30th June 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1 - Return as above.

1699.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File.
AUG 19 1893

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
AUG 19 1893
RECEIVED.

No 1700.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 3rd, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
He Ko-lao Hui.

Synopsis
Some account of the origin of this society. Punishment of leaders.

No 1700.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 3rd, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The government of China continues mercilessly to execute by the "ling ch'ih", or "shameful and slow process", every member of the Ko-lao hui that it can arrest.

Very lately, at Nanking, Wan Sung-ting suffered death by this process, which to the Chinese is the extremest

disgrace

disgrace and attaches a stigma to the family of the criminal to the tenth generation. Wan Sung-ting was the man who, during the time of the Maron conspiracy in May 1889, was stationed at Chinkiang. He then gave a dinner at which he introduced Li Hsien-mou to the chiefs of the Ko-lao Hui. Two years later, Li Hsien-mou was arrested and, after some time, he with all his family committed suicide. His head was after death severed from his body and exhibited at several

cities

cities. Wan Sung-ting was taken into custody at the same time that Li was, but, being supposed to be a novice in the society, was released after having given up all the insignia of the society in his possession. Lately, however, owing to a confession made by one of the leaders of the society, Wan was arrested and has been executed. He confessed his guilt.

Death by the slow or clipping process is said to be sometimes rendered painless by the executioner thrusting a long thin dagger into

into the culprit's breast, thus killing him immediately. Afterwards the cutting into pieces is complied with.

In some respects it is advantageous to foreign interests that the Ko-lao Hui should be annihilated, because, in its machinations against the throne, it has always used prejudice against foreigners as an incitement to disorder. China is honey-combed with secret societies. The most celebrated of these is the Triad. Some of these societies are merely sects of Buddhists. One forbids the use of tobacco and

wine

wine.

The Ko-lao Hui is of comparatively recent origin, and has only lately come into prominence, owing to its connection with the Englishman Mason and the importation through him of arms. This society is said to have been organized during the Tai-ping rebellion by the great general Tséng Kuo-fan, who was then besieging Nanking. It is supposed that the society does not now propose to establish the Ming dynasty on the throne, but that it looks back to the Tang

dynasty

dynasty and will put forward a claimant reputed to be descended from the rulers of that dynasty.

The head-quarters of this society is in the intensely anti-foreign province of Hunan. It is said to have its emissaries in every province who travel disguised as doctors and gather in members. Its constitution is similar to that of the Triad. The ceremonies resemble those of freemasonry.

During the riots of 1891, the Chinese government very ingeniously availed itself of the existence of this

CONFIDENTIAL.

this society in order to
show to the foreign powers
that the disturbances were
directed no less against
the imperial government
than against the foreigners.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No 1701.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 3rd, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 19 1893
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Furnishing of the new office buildings

Synopsis
Allowance of $700 asked to buy furniture.

No 1701.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 3rd, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The new offices in the compound of the legation are now roofed - They will be ready for occupation early in the fall.

A plan thereof will be found in my despatch No 1503, of March 30th 1892. A brief description thereof is as follows. The ground floor

consists

consists of four rooms of the following dimensions: one 21' × 18'; one 18' × 18'; one 12'9" × 18' and a strong room 18' × 18'. On this floor will be the offices of the minister and first secretary. The small room will be used for a library.

A stairway four feet wide leads to the upper story. The hall running north and south is ten feet wide, the east and west hall is eight feet wide.

The upper story consists of five rooms. Two are 21'4½" × 18' each, one 18' × 12'9", one 18 × 18' and one 16' × 8'6".

The

The halls upstairs have the same width as those below. There are thirteen windows downstairs and sixteen upstairs. There are six doors downstairs and six upstairs. The upper rooms will be occupied by the second secretary, the interpreter, the Chinese writer and for storing books.

My object in sending this despatch at this time is not to describe the building, which can be more appropriately done when it is finished, but to give an accurate idea thereof and thereon to base a request that an

allowance

allowance be made for the purchase of furniture which is needed for the furnishing thereof. The minister, the secretaries and interpreter have desks now. There are a few chairs and two small Chinese rugs. There are on hand a few cases for the archives and for books. There is, roughly speaking, no other furniture available for the new building. We need chairs, carpets, curtains, book-cases, tables. All these articles will have to be procured at Shanghai. Articles made by the Chinese or furnished by the missionary

associations

associations are not satisfactory.

I suppose that seven hundred dollars gold would suffice to procure a reasonable quantity of suitable furniture. It is important that if this allowance be made at all, it be made immediately as navigation closes early in December and not much time is left to order and receive such articles from Shanghai.

I respectfully ask that I be wired your decision.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Separate.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 19 1893
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 6th, 1893.

—Wm. F. Bluethill—
to the
—Secretary of State.—

—Subject.—

Enclosing accounts for salary and loss by Exchange for Quarter Ending June 30th, 1893.

Separate. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, July 6th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham.
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to
Enclose my account for Salary
and account for Loss by
Exchange for the quarter Ended
June 30th, 1893.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant.
F. D. Sheehan.
Interpreter of Legation

Enclosures 2. Accounts as above.

Rec'd 25 Aug 1893

No. 1702.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
AUG25 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 7th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 19 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Retaliation against Americans by China.

Synopsis

Report of interview between Consul Bowman and Viceroy Li enclosed and comments thereon.

One enclosure.

No 1702.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 7th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to
enclose a copy of a report
1/1702. of an interview between the
Viceroy Li Hung-chang and
Consul Wm Bowman, held
June 29th last. A copy thereof
will be handed the
President by Mr Bowman.

It will be seen that the
Viceroy threatens retaliation

in

in case the Geary act is executed. In late years the Viceroy has the habit of talking in grand style to affect his hearers, who are minor officials.

He is by no means the Government of China and, officially, has no place in the foreign office. His influence is not as great as it was some years ago. He is getting old.

Very few Americans residing in China fear retaliation. Unless the treaties are abrogated, China can execute no process against Americans. China

dreads

dreads change. She knows, too, that all the missionaries are devoted friends of the Chinese. She knows that any injury done to Americans will react on her own people. She knows that the balance of trade is largely in her favor.

Americans may be annoyed by petty officials, discrimination may be used against them in matters of employment and contracts, and there may be riots here and there, but it is not the opinion of the Americans in China that any direct governmental action will be had against them,

even

even if the Geary Act is enforced.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Report of interview as above.

Enclosure in No

Copy

Report of an interview between the viceroy Li Hung-chang and Consul Wm Bowman held at the viceregal Yamen, June 29th 1893.

The viceroy Li Hung-chang requested Consul Bowman, on his return to the United States, to call upon President Cleveland and to state to him:

1. That viceroy Li appreciates the good intentions of the President and Secretary of State and thanks them for their efforts to secure kind and just treatment for the Chinese residing in the United States.
2. That viceroy Li feels keenly the unfriendly nature and injustice of the Geary Law.
3. That China will take no action thereon until the next session of the American Congress in the hope that the Geary Law may then be modified or repealed.

4.

4. That if the next Congress decides to enforce the existing law, China will at once retaliate; friendly relations between the two countries will be broken off, and laws will be enacted looking towards the expulsion of all Americans from China.

5. That meantime instructions have been issued to all Chinese officials to take especial care to protect all American citizens living in China from mob violence.

This message is sent directly to the President by the hand of Consul Bowman in order that there may be no doubt of its authenticity.

3RD ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
OCT 21 1893

File

OCT 21 1893

No 1703.

Legation of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 19 1893
RECEIVED.

Peking, July 7th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Tientsin Consulship

Synopsis
Missionaries desire to have
Mr. Pethick or Mr. Tenney in
charge.

One enclosure.

No 1703.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 7th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have received from Mr. C. A. Stanley, a missionary at Tientsin, a communication of which the enclosed is a copy.

1
703.

It seems proper to forward this paper for your consideration but I do not feel authorized to unequivocally endorse it.

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Mr. Stanley to Mr. Denby

July 3rd 1893.

Enclosure in No. 1703

Copy

Tientsin, July 3rd, 1893.

To the Hon. Charles Denby,
Minister &c, Peking.

Sir:

I write you on behalf of our missionaries in regard to consular affairs in this district, concerning which we feel very anxious at this critical time. We feel that it would be a great misfortune to have Mr. Bowman return, or to have a man appointed who is wholly unacquainted with Chinese affairs, at a time when only the best man available should be in charge.

Would it be possible for you to recommend officially that, if the Department of State is not prepared to act on the petition requesting the appointment of Mr. W. N. Pethick as Consul, the

appointment

appointment of a new man be deferred for a few months? This would leave the Consulate in charge of either Mr. Pethick or Mr. Tenney during this trying period, – men who have had some experience and in whom their nationals have great confidence. Trusting this may not be considered an interference, and hoping for the best results.

I beg to remain,

Your humble servant

(Sig'd) C. A. Stanley

Missy A. B. C. F. M.

Tientsin

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Copy to Mr. Hofford.
Ack by subject - ack
AUG 22 1893

23 Aug. " "

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
AUG 22 1893

No 1704

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 10th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
AUG 21 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject.

International copyright.

Synopsis

China has no copyright laws and declines to avail herself of the benefits of the Act of March 3rd 1891.

Two enclosures.

No 1704.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 10th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In further acknowledgement of your despatch No 798, of May 23rd 1893, I have the honor to state that the Department's circular despatch of May 7th 1891 — not May 1st — relating to copyright was received here June 19th 1891, and receipt acknowledged of that date. A copy thereof was

immediately

immediately transmitted to the Foreign Office. No answer was ever received.

On the third instant, I sent to the Foreign Office a despatch, of which a copy is herewith enclosed, and received, the 7th instant, an answer, of which a copy is herewith enclosed. The Yamên states that China has no laws relating to copyright.

1/1704

2/1704

The communication of the Yamên contains an irrelevant allegation that China has not secured her rights under the treaties. Such statements, injected into mere routine and business correspondence,

are

are offensive. I shall take occasion to express to the Yamên my opinion that they should be omitted in future.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosures:

1. Mr. Denby to the Foreign Office, July 3rd 1893.
2. The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby July 7th 1893.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1704.

Mr. Denby to the Foreign Office

Informal. July 3rd 1893.

Your Highness and
Your Excellencies:

I had the honor, on the 22nd day of June 1891, to enclose to Your Highness and Your Excellencies a copy of the act of Congress entitled "An Act to amend title sixty chapter 3 of the Revised Statutes of the United States relating to copyrights".

Section 13 of said act provides that this act shall only apply to a citizen or subject of a foreign nation, when such foreign state or nation permits to citizens of the United States of America the benefits of copyright, on substantially the same basis as its own citizens; or when such foreign state or

nation.

nation is a party to an international agreement which provides for reciprocity in the granting of copyright, by the terms of which agreement the United States may, at its pleasure, become a party to such agreement.

The existence of either of the conditions as aforesaid shall be determined by the President of the United States by proclamation.

Your Highness and Your Excellencies sent no answer to my communication of the 22nd June 1891.

The matter has again been brought to my attention by the Hon. Secretary of State who desires to know whether the Government of China has complied, or will comply, with the condition of the law and desires to enjoy the benefits

thereof

thereof.

Whatever may be the copyright laws of China – if there are any – a formal answer to this communication is asked for in order that it may be furnished to my government.

I have etc., etc.,

(S'g'd) Charles Denby.

Enclosure 2 in No. 1704.

Copy of translation.

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby.

Informal. July 7th 1893.

Your Excellency:

We have had the honor to receive Your Excellency's note of the 3rd instant, to effect that, on the 22nd June 1891, you transmitted to the Yamên a copy of an Act of Congress amending a previous statute relating to the law of copyrights and providing for reciprocity in the granting of mutual benefits under it; that Your Excellency had not received a reply to the note in question; that the matter had again been brought to your attention by the Hon. Secretary of State, who desired to know whether the Government of China would comply with the conditions of the law and enjoy the benefits

Thereof

thereof.

Your Excellency further stated that whatever may be the law of China – if there be any – a formal answer to your communication is asked for in order that it may be furnished to your government.

With regard to the act forwarded by Your Excellency to the Yamen on the 22nd June 1891, we have the honor to state that we duly penned a translation of same. China has no laws relating to copyrights.

As to reciprocal benefits, it would still be necessary to enter into an agreement or compact providing for their enjoyment, and in this matter we have only to express our regret that the benefits and priveleges accorded to China by right under the treaties or agreements entered into between

the

the United States during the
past several tens of years
have never been secured to
her. The United States
government has always been
unable to manage matters in
this respect.

Further there is no necessity
in this matter of copyrights
for a reciprocal arrangement
(between the two countries).

In addition, as China has no
such laws on her statute books
we, therefore, rather delayed
answering Your Excellency's
previous note.

In making this reply, which
we beg Your Excellency will
peruse, we have the honor
to request that Your Excellency
will transmit a copy of it
for the information of the Hon.
Secretary of State.

Cards of Ministers with compliments.

Dep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 11th, 1893.

Mr. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Accounts.

Two enclosures.

Sep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 14th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose my salary and exchange accounts for the quarter ending June 30th last.

1 & 2

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Second Secretary.

Enclosures:

As above.

No 1705.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 15th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing Statement of Account for Contingent Expenses for the quarter Ended 30th of June 1893.

No 1705. One enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 15th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of the account for Contingent Expenses of this Legation for the quarter ended 30th of June 1893.

1705.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

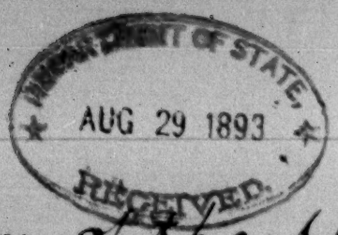
Charles Denby

Enclosure. Statement as above.

Dip

Ackly to file

No. 1706.



Copy of Memorandum of Conversation between Secy of State & Chinese Minister of May 20, 1893. Encl. in Mr. Denby's dispatch No. 1706 of June 5, 1893. Recd Sept 7, 93. Ackd

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 17th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledging despatches

№1706.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 17th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches as follows: №801 of the 31st May; 802 of the 2nd June; 803, 804 and 805 of the 5th June. The enclosure stated to have been transmitted in №805 did not come to hand.

I have received, also, your circular

circular despatch of the 2nd June, asking for information concerning the medical profession in China.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No 1707.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 29 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 18th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —
Enclosing duplicate statement of salary account for quarter ending 30th June 1893.

No 1707. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 18th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a duplicate statement of my account for salary for the quarter Ended 30th June 1893.

1707.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant—

Charles Denby

Enclosure - Duplicate statement as above.

No 1708.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 18th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 29 1893
RECEIVED

— Wm. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject —

Enclosing duplicate statement of the Rent Account of this Legation for quarter ending 30th June 1893.

No 1708. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 18th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to

1708. enclose a duplicate Statement of the Rent Account of this Legation for the quarter ending June 30th, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your obedient Servant.

Charles Denby

Enclosure - Duplicate Statement as above.

No 1709.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 18th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 29 1893
RECEIVED.

— Mr. Beasley Smith —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing duplicate ~~~
statement of the passports
issued at this Legation during
the quarter Ending 30th June
1893.

Passport Bureau Sep. 1. 93

No 1709. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 18th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to
1709 Enclose a duplicate statement
of the passports issued at
this Legation during the quarter
Ending 30th June 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure - Duplicate statement as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 29 1893
RECEIVED

No 1710

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 18th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby. —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —

Enclosing duplicate statement of account for loss by Exchange for the quarter ended 30th June 1893.

— — — —

No 1710. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking July 18th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to Enclose a duplicate statement of my account for hire by Exchange for the quarter Ending 30th June 1893.

1710.

I have the honor to be, sir

Your obedient servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure. Duplicate Statement as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 29 1893
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ack & file.
AUG 29 1893

30 aug

No 1711.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 18th, 1893.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
AUG 29 1893

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Massacre of Swedish missionaries at Hankow.

Synopsis

Newspaper account thereof enclosed.

One enclosure.

No. 1711.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 18th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have to inform you that two Swedish missionaries were massacred by a mob, on the 3rd day of this month, at Sungpu, a town about sixty miles from Hankow.

An account of this deplorable event, clipped from the North-China Daily News of the 7th instant, is enclosed.

711

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Clipping as above.

Enclosure in No 1711.

From North China Daily News July 7th 1893.

HANKOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE MURDER OF THE SWEDISH MISSIONARIES.

I have just sent you a telegram with the sad news of the murder of the Rev. Messrs. Wickholm and Johanssen, two Swedish Missionaries belonging to Wuchang, in an anti-foreign riot at Sungpu on Saturday, and now in a hurried note send you the particulars as far as they can be gathered at present.

THE SCENE OF THE CRIME.

Sungpu is a market town in the district of Matsinhsien, sixty miles from here on the great road leading to Peking. It is a place of considerable trade; being near the borders of Honan many of the merchants of that province go to it instead of to Hankow. The inhabitants, who number about 20,000, are largely natives of other places, and being strangers themselves have always been very friendly to strangers. Sungpu indeed has always had the good word of the foreigners who have frequently visited it.

THE HOSTILE GENTRY.

A few months ago the Swedish mission rented a native house in one of the back streets, hoping in time to settle down and carry on work there. They got on with the people remarkably well, but after a time found that certain gentry and bad characters were getting up an agitation against them. Some of the people concerned in renting them the house were seized and put in prison at Matsin and very severely beaten. In connection with this the matter was brought before Mr. Joh. Thyen, who is in charge of Swedish interests at this port, and by him represented to the Taotai, with the result that the imprisoned men were set free, and the Matsin magistrate was to see to it that there would be no further trouble.

THE MURDERS DECIDED ON.

The next news they got, however, was to the effect that at a great feast and procession on Saturday the 1st instant, the foreigners were to be killed. This information reached the two murdered gentlemen who were then staying there, and the Consul in Hankow at the same time. The Consul's information came from the Taotai with the request that he, the Consul, should therefore order the missionaries to withdraw. This the Consul, being informed by the missionaries themselves that all was quiet, and that they anticipated no danger, declined to do.

BEGINNING THE MISCHIEF.

The 1st instant was Saturday, but the feast began on the previous Wednesday when many thousands of the country people were gathered into the town. Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday large numbers of people visited the missionaries' house, but all kept quiet, and when Saturday morning came they fondly hoped they had outlived another false alarm. Alas, early in the day a crowd began to assemble evidently bent on mischief. They began by stoning, and then, as their courage rose, attempted to rush the house. Finding it no longer tenable, the missionaries made their way into the house of their landlord adjoining, and saw their own instantly looted and everything smashed. The landlord's house was next attacked, so they climbed over a back wall and into another house where they found refuge for a time in a garret. They were found out here also, and ultimately driven out of the garret on to the roof. The whole forenoon had passed in this way, and it was now two o'clock, the hour of their appearance and the end. As soon as they were seen on the roof, a great shout went up from the mob, and four men armed with iron rods sprang up after them. The missionaries, followed by these, and pelted with stones and tiles from every side, retreated along about a score of houses when they could get no further, so they leaped into the road and were immediately despatched.

A TERRIBLE SCENE.

The mob sprang on them, pierced them with their spiked carrying poles, pounded them with hoes, battered in their skulls, stripped every rag of clothing off them; in mere wanton wickedness inflicted nameless barbarities on their now dead and senseless bodies. Our informant saw them lying stark and battered in the Sungpu street with no one to care for them save the native dogs.

THE TASTE OF BLOOD.

As soon as the foreigners were killed, a rush was made to find the natives associated with them, most of whom, however, escaped, but one was caught and very badly beaten. He only escaped death through being a Sungpu man and several people therefore taking his part. When there was no more killing to be done, the missionaries' house was set on fire and that and the one adjoining burned to the ground. The above particulars have been gathered from one of the servants who escaped, and made his way as fast as he could to Hankow.

THE ANTI-FOREIGN FEELING.

I have no time just now to comment on the above, but I would point out that the anti-foreign feeling created by the Chou Han propaganda proves to have done unspeakable mischief in all parts of Central China. It was only by rare good fortune that the bicyclist Mr. Lenz escaped with his life from an unprovoked attack. On their last journey our veteran missionary Dr. Griffith John with Dr. Gillison were in a similar way attacked by country people with their hoes and pikes, and had a very providential escape from death. Yet Chou Han has never yet been punished in any way. None of the parties concerned in the two Ichang riots were ever punished, and even the man who in the last one was caught by the foreigners and handed over to justice was dismissed free and unrebuked. All this has but one meaning and can tend to but one end.

WHERE WERE THE AUTHORITIES?

But where were the Sungpu authorities? Although the danger to the foreigners was according to themselves so great and im-

minent, they never did anything to ward it off. At Chiting, only 8 *li* away, was a military force and the *yamên* of the Huangchow-fu sub-prefect, a great official in these parts, but no steps were taken to prevent trouble. There is a small military official located at Sungpu with a few soldiers, and he turned out but could do nothing. The crowd attacked him early and drove him from the field.

RECOVERING THE BODIES.

The first thing to be done now is to bring the bodies in. I hear the Ho family, in whose vicinity this dreadful murder was perpetrated, have covered them with mats and are taking charge of them. The street people were friendly throughout. The rioters came from certain villages from ten to fifteen *li* away, and the real attacking parties were hired cut-throats. A party leaves to-night to bring the bodies in. I shall join it and on my return hope to be able to send you fuller particulars.

3rd July.

Secretary of State
SEP 6 1893

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 29 1893
RECEIVED

Ackby to Vfile

No 1712.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 18th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The proposed Nanking land regulations.

Synopsis

They have been withdrawn.

Duty of interference in such cases discussed.

No 1712.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 18th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In reply to your despatch No 803, of the 5th ultimo, I have the honor to state that, in consequence of the protest of H. B. M's Minister and myself, the objectionable rules mentioned in my despatch No 1664, of the 1st of April last, as having been promulgated at Nanking, were withdrawn.

The

The matter is, therefore, terminated and requires no further notice, but a portion of your despatch demands some comment. You say:

"As you cannot be
"expected to intervene in
"such action outside of the
"treaty ports, it is not clear
"on what ground your
"notification was made to
"the Taotai of Nanking,
"through the acting consul,
"that the proposed new rule
"will not be acquiesced in
"or acted upon by your
"legation".

I beg leave to say that my ground for protesting against

against the enforcement of the rules mentioned was that China, by permitting foreigners to locate in the interior, must necessarily be held to have extended the operation of the treaties over the localities so occupied. If land is permitted to be acquired at all in the interior, the transaction must be controlled by the terms of the treaties, there being no other law applicable to foreigners. Local officials have no authority to establish regulations inconsistent with or antagonistic to the provisions of the treaties.

It has always been held

by

by this legation that the duties and responsibilities thereof were locally commensurate with the residence of Americans in China, wherever such residence might be.

I make these remarks with diffidence, because the latter part of your despatch seems to accord with these ideas. I shall not take it that the Department reprobates the practice of the Ministers interference in troubles relating to land situate in the interior until I am further advised.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

for Mr Pepper - Vol Sep

No 1713.

DIPLOMATIC
SEP 9 1893

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 6 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 24th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

Subject

Reply to circular of June 2nd

One enclosure.

No 1713.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 24th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to
enclose, herewith, replies to
the interrogatories of your
circular despatch of June 2nd
1893, having reference to the
medical profession in China.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Enclosure:
As above.

1
1713.

Recd to file

No 1714.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 6 1893
RECEIVED

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
SEP 6 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 24th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

Subject

Production, coinage etc. of the precious metals.

Synopsis

Notifies Department of transmission to Director of Mint of answers to interrogatories relating to coinage etc.

No 1714

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 24th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have, in obedience to your circular of June 9th last, transmitted to the Director of the Mint, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., answers to the interrogatories relating to the coinage, production and consumption of the precious metals

metals in China.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 6 1893
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack with 1720 & 1729
aaly
OCT 14 1893

No 1715.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 21st, 1893.

ans'd April 6, 1894.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
OCT 14 1893

Subject

The importation of steam machinery into China.

Synopsis

Encloses communication to the Yamên protesting against the prohibition of the importation of such machinery.

One enclosure.

No. 1715.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 24th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that, some weeks ago, I received, from the Senior Consul at Shanghai, a communication requesting me, as Dean of the Diplomatic Body, to lay before my colleagues the request of the Consular Body and the Chamber of Commerce at Shanghai that

that measures be taken to
secure the reversal of an
order made by the Taotai
at Shanghai, prohibiting the
importation into Shanghai
of machinery to be operated
by steam.

I circulated among my
1/1715. colleagues the communication
of which a copy is enclosed.
It was approved by all the
foreign representatives except
the minister of Russia, who
has some scruples against
joint action. I accordingly
sent it to the Foreign Office.

The subject is by no
means a new one. It was
elaborately discussed in

1882

1882 and 1883, by the foreign representatives and the foreign office. The latter strenuously denied the existence of the right on the part of foreigners to import steam machinery and to manufacture crude Chinese products in China. I need not go into the discussion of the question here, as it is fully presented in the enclosure.

For more than a year, cotton-gins have been admitted without objection. Machinery for silk filatures and for a cotton mill which is under government protection is also freely admitted.

I doubted the advisability

of

of the foreign powers encouraging manufacturing by steam in China. By means of the cheap labor obtainable here, a dangerous competition with foreign products might be brought about. Nevertheless, as all my colleagues but one favored the presentation of the question, and as all the foreigners in China are clamorous in favor of the right of importation, I deemed it best to present it.

I do not think, judging by past experience, that there is any probability that China will alter her traditional policy on this subject.

)

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Mr. Denby to the Foreign Office

July 22d/1893.

Enclosure in No 1715

Mr. Denby to the Foreign Office

No 10. July 22nd 1893.

Your Highness and

Your Excellencies:

By direction of the Ministers of France, Spain Great Britain, Germany and the Pays-Bas and the Chargés d'Affaires of Belgium, Italy and Japan, I have the honor, as Dean of the Diplomatic Body, to bring to the attention of Your Highness and Your Excellencies the recent action of the Taotai at Shanghai, relating to the importation of cotton-ginning machinery.

It appears that the Taotai instructed the Commissioner of Customs to refuse permits for the importation of cotton-gins and every other description of foreign machinery for manufactories, to any one but Chinese subjects. In consequence of this order the

Nippon.

Nippon Yusen Kaisha was unable to tranship to the steamer "Kiangsun" for Ningpo thirty-six cases containing cotton-gins which arrived from Japan by the steamer "Kobe Maru", during the month of April last.

As the case now stands this machinery will have to be reshipped to Japan.

This action is, in all respects, extraordinary. Cotton-ginning machines have been imported from Japan for a long period without any objection being made to their introduction, and no notice of the alleged right of prohibiting their importation has ever been issued by the Customs.

It seems that the orders issued to the Commissioners of Customs apply to the prohibition of landing steam machinery, whether it be intended for natives or foreigners, but do not apply to hand machines

for

for the use of Chinese.

When the matter was brought to the attention of the Taotai by the Senior Consul, that official answered that he had been ordered by His Excellency the Superintendent of Northern Trade to prohibit the introduction of steam machinery, unless it was intended for the use of the cotton mills which are under official management. It is thus made evident that not only are plain rights, guaranteed by various treaties, to which reference will hereinafter be made, denied to foreigners, but also that the prohibition for foreigners to import machinery implies, in a certain sense the right of the Chinese to establish trade monopolies, which, I venture to think Your Highness and Your Excellencies will readily admit, is in direct opposition with treaty stipulations.

Steam

Steam machinery may be admitted for any company which is assumed to be under the protection of the imperial or local authorities, but cannot be admitted for the use of either private Chinese or foreigners.

This is a startling declaration which goes to the fundamental destruction of international rights under the treaties.

It is the duty of the foreign representatives to meet it at the threshold and to seek to have it overruled and set aside by Your Highness and Your Excellencies. It was to meet this possible condition that the 11th Article of the treaty with France, signed June 27th 1858, at Tientsin, was prepared. That article denounces the establishment of any "priveleged commercial society" and any "organized coalition "having for its end the exercise

"of a monopoly of trade".

It is proper to state that the particular question now presented to Your Highness and Your Excellencies cannot strictly be said to be one applicable to the introduction of machinery to be used for manufacturing. The object of the cotton-gin is not to change, or manufacture cotton into cloth or any other completed article; it is simply to remove the seed from the cotton. It leaves the cotton as it found it except that it is cleaned of seed. While this construction would of itself be sufficient to secure the reversal of the order complained of, the above named foreign representatives do not stop there.

They claim that, under existing treaties, foreigners have have the undoubted right to import steam machinery and to use it at the open ports in converting crude

Native

native products into manufactured articles. Such right is distinctly recognized in the 7th article of the French treaty of 1858, which provides that Frenchmen and their families may establish themselves at the open ports and may engage "in commerce and "l'industrie (meaning skilled "manufacturing pursuits) in all "security and without hindrance "of any kind."

To the same effect is the 11th article of the treaty made with the King of Belgium, Nov 2nd 1865.

The German treaty of 1861, in article VI, provides that "trade or industry" may be carried on at the open ports.

Article VIII of the Austro-Hungarian treaty of 1869 gives to the subjects of these powers the right to exercise at the open ports any industry they like, no restriction being attached to the concession,

neither

neither with regard to the material nor the disposal of the goods so manufactured.

These rules and regulations so laid down in the treaties were considered when they were made and must be held, until the treaties are abrogated, to be the basis of the relations between China and the foreign powers; and, being such, it is the duty of the foreign representatives to enter an earnest protest against their violation.

I call the attention of Your Highness and Your Excellencies to the further fact that in the tariff schedule, which was adopted the 8th day of November 1858, foreign machinery is not included among the prohibited articles. The first of the rules appended to the tariff provides that "Articles not "enumerated in either list (export "or import) nor in the list of duty

free

"free goods, will pay an ad valorem
"duty of five per cent, calculated
"on their market value".

Clearly, therefore, under your own tariff, machinery may be imported.

For the reasons above set out, and many others that might be enumerated, I have to request Your Highness and Your Excellencies to order the rescission of the order herein complained of.

The Dean of the Diplomatic Body seizes this occasion to renew to Your Highness and Your Excellencies the assurance of his most distinguished consideration.

No 1716.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 6 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 31st, 1893.

— Wm. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —
Enclosing Repair Account
for the six months
Ended 30th June 1893.

— — — — —

No 1716. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 31st, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of the Repair Account of this Legation for the six months ended June 30th 1893.

1716.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Charles Denby

Enclosure, Statement as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 6 1893
RECEIVED

No 1717.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 31st, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing duplicate statement of Contingent Expenses — account for Quarter ended 30th — June 1893.

No 1717. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 31st, 1893.

To the Honorable,
Walter Q. Gresham.
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate statement of the account for contingent Expenses of this Legation for the quarter Ended 30th June 1893.

1717

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure. Duplicate statement as above.

No 1718.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE. ★ SEP 14 1893 ★ RECEIVED.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY. Ack with gratification that this long-pending question has been satisfactorily settled. SEP 15 1893

Oct 19

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 7th, 1893.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU. SEP 15 1893

Mr. Denby to the Secretary of State.

Subject

The boundary of the American Settlement at Shanghai.

Synopsis

The boundaries have been finally settled to the approval of the Taotai the Consular Body and the Municipal Council

No. 1718.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 7th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the boundary question of the "American Settlement" at Shanghai, otherwise known as Hongkew, has been settled to the satisfaction of the native officials, the Consular Body and the Municipal Council.

The Vice Consul-General, Mr.

W.

W. D. Emens, who is acting as Consul-General, is entitled to great commendation for the ability, care and prudence that he has displayed in the management of this old and troublesome question.

Kongkew, as a matter of fact, is the local name for a very small area at the bend of the river Whangpoo. The boundaries recently ratified are those of the American settlement, and the ground is so designated in all the Chinese despatches. The area within these boundaries is 1300 acres.

I enclose, herewith, a photograph

from

1/1718

from which may be seen the
comparative area of the English
and French settlements and
the American; also a photograph
2/1718. of the boundary stones recently
put up.

Prior to 1863, there was an
organization of "landholders on
the American concession". They
maintained something in the
way of a police force, but they
got into debt, and eventually
the policing, lighting etc. were
undertaken, by mutual consent,
by the municipal organization
which had already existed for
some years in the English
settlement.

Mr. Seward, U. S. Consul-

General

General, presented to a meeting
of the "American Concession" people,
held Sept. 21st 1863, the
convention made by him for
the settlement with the local
authorities. This convention was
published in the North China
Daily News, 26th Sept. 1863.
Those were the days of the
Taiping Rebellion. There is no
record to show that Wang
Taotai ever signed or in
anyway ratified that convention.
The newspaper version contains
a description of the boundaries.
It did not matter much in
those days where the northern
line was, but, as Shanghai
grew, the importance of establishing

it

it became apparent.

In 1873, Mr. Seward claimed that there was a misunderstanding about this line, and he then began negotiations with the Taotai for a new line. Off and on ever since there have been attempts to get the matter settled. The final effort resulted from a communication recently addressed to the Senior Consul by the Municipal Council. Mr. Evens was appointed the delegate of the consuls. He, with the municipal engineers, has met the Chinese delegates on many occasions and, at last, with the approval of the consuls and

The

the Council, the boundaries now reported were established.

The Taotai has consulted the Nanking Viceroy at every turn. In a communication, dated the 22nd ultimo, addressed to Mr Emens as Consul-General of the United States, the Taotai, acting under instructions from the higher Chinese authorities, formally ratified the establishment of the boundaries. The Taotai and Mr. Emens have each signed and sealed two plans showing the line, of which one copy has been filed in the Taotai's yamên and the other in the United States Consulate-

General

General.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosures:

Photographs as above

Enclosure 1 in No 2

MAP
OF
HONCKEW
OR THE
AMERICAN : SETTLEMENT
AT
SHANCHAI

STIPULATIONS ~ BOUNDARY OF HONGKEW OR THE AMERICAN SETTLEMENT AT SHANGHAI.

Clause 1.—The boundaries agreed on have been clearly defined by stones marked in Chinese and English, and are defined on this map. The stones are numbered.

Stone No. 1 on the north bank of the Soochow Creek is on Government foreshore, and the land on which the stone stands to the extent of *one Jong* (10 feet by 10 feet, English measurement) is granted to the Municipal Council in perpetuity subject only to payment of Government land tax.

Stone No. 6 on the south bank of the Ke Fang, west of the North Honan Road stands on land belonging to the Chinese Government. The said stone shall remain there in perpetuity and land to the extent of *one Jong* (10 feet by 10 feet, English measurement) on which it stands shall always remain vacant. No rent shall be paid in respect of this stone or the *Jong* of land in which it stands. The other stones are in foreign-and native-owned ground, where they are in native-owned ground the ground to the extent of *one Jong* (10 feet by 10 feet, English measurement) on which each stone stands is leased to the Municipal Council in perpetuity and the Municipal Council are to pay the present owners and their heirs and assigns for ever, $5 per annum for each *Jong* where 5 stones stands. The Municipal Council may, however, commute with any owner for 10 years' rental for and in discharge of all future payments of such rent.

Clause 2.—Where the stones are in foreign-owned land the Municipal Council is left to acquire the land from the owners.

Clause 3.—In the event of the intended construction of public roads through native-owned property, the Municipal authorities shall make the necessary arrangements for the acquisition of the land and the removal of any houses or graves on the line of such roads, before the work is commenced.

Clause 4.—In no case shall the graves of Chinese be removed without the express sanction of the families to whom they belong.

Clause 5.—No public road can be carried through the Public Cemeteries.

Clause 6.—The Municipal Council undertake not to fill in any existing tidal creek or canal until after consultation with the Local Authorities.

Clause 7.—Houses Tax.—The Municipal Council undertake that all the existing dwelling-houses which are not now taxed because they belong to and are inhabited by the original Chinese proprietors, and all old or new houses on land belonging to original Chinese proprietors which are so distant from roads or improvements that they derive no benefit therefrom, shall not be taxed.

Clause 7.—Land Tax.—The Municipal Council, undertake not to tax agricultural land within the limits of the Hongkew Settlement so long as the said land is owned by the original Chinese proprietor.

Clause 8.—The Soochow Creek is declared to be outside the limits of the Hongkew Settlement and the conservation of the Creek will appertain to the Imperial Chinese Government. A land line shall be laid out by the local Chinese Authorities in conjunction with the U. S. Consul-General and the Municipal Council. No bunding will thereafter be permitted to encroach on the Soochow Creek beyond the line agreed upon.

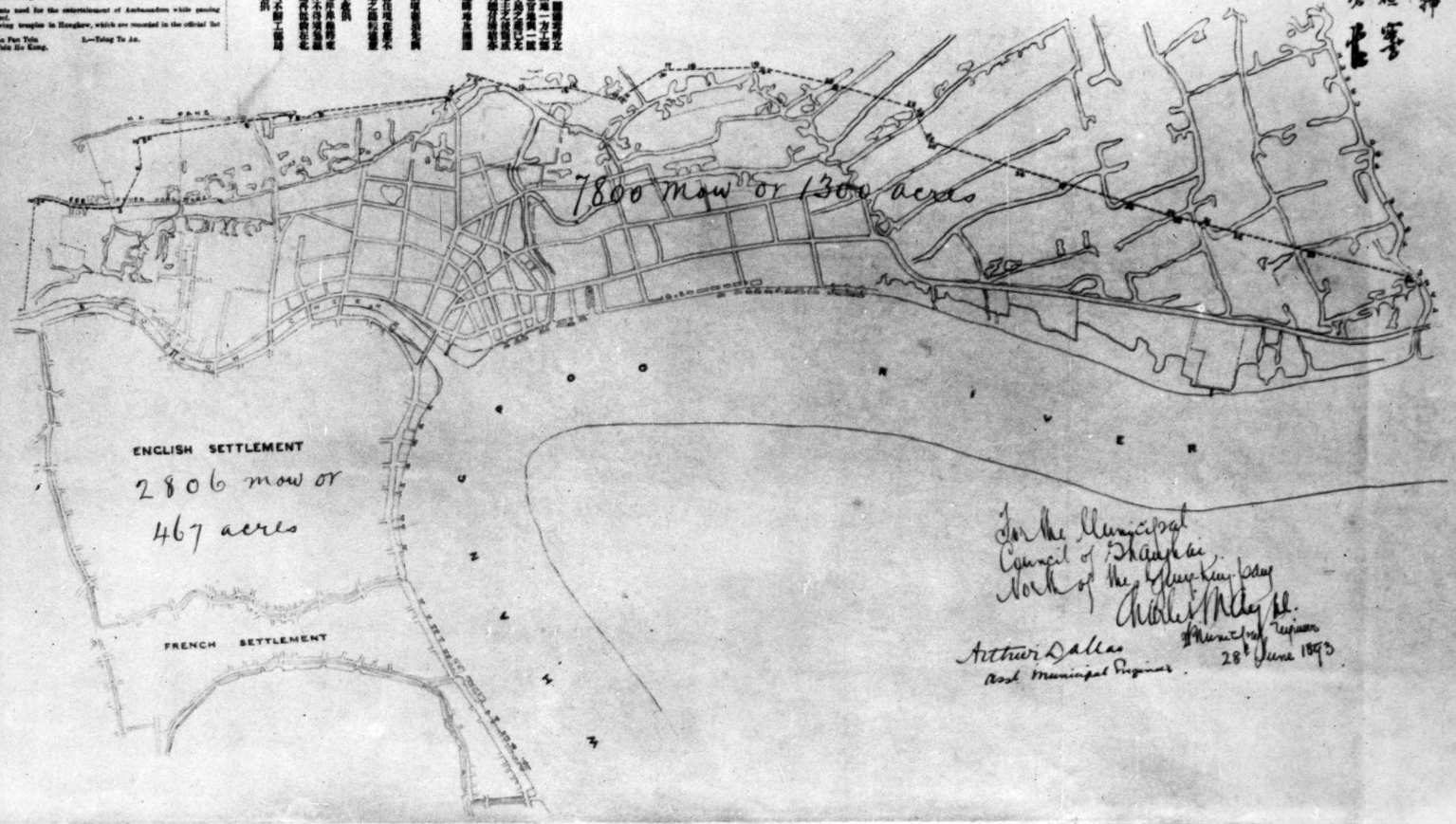
The Municipal Council, in erecting additional or new bridges across the Soochow Creek, undertake not to erect any bridges with less headway than the present bridges.

The Municipal Council undertake not to erect any jetties along the northern bank of the Soochow Creek that will obstruct the fairway of the creek or land to sth.

The Temple of Heaven and the connecting apertenants used for the entertainment of Ambassadors while passing through Hongkew are to be exempted from Municipal control.

The Municipal Council undertake not to tax the following temples in Hongkew, which are recorded in the official list published by the Board at Peking.

1.—Hsu Kwan Yung. 2.—Hsin Hai Miao. 3.—Le Pan Tsin 4.—Tien Ho Kung. 5.—Teing Te An.



SCALE 1000 FEET TO AN INCH

On behalf of the Consuls of the Treaty Powers at Shanghai
W. S. Pruen
U.S.N. Consul General

光緒十九年五月
西歷一千八百九十年六月 公同簽押
上海縣 黃承熙 簽
英租界會審委員蔡鴻滄
紳董 朱葆三 簽
江海關 簽
會審委員 署
暨閘桐鑑
王增福
周樹蓮 押

此圖係奉
憲委員上海縣
英租界會審委員公同會
議辦理
城廂紳董與
代辦各國領事員同制
代辦工部局董事管理工部局工務處工員
繪

For the Municipal Council of Shanghai
Mr Mody the Chairman
A. Wilkie Mody Esq.
Chairman of Municipal Committee
28th June 1893

Arthur Dallas
Asst Municipal Engineer

No. 5. Consulate General
Shanghai July 28th 1893.
Despatch No. 153.
Enclosure No. 2.

Enclosure 2 in No

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 14 1893
RECEIVED

Separate.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 9th, 1893.

—Mr. F. D. Chester—
to the
—Secretary of State—

—Subject.—

Enclosing duplicate statements of account for salary and loss by Exchange for quarter ending 30th June July 1893.

Separate. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States
Peking, August 9th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham.
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate statements of my account for salary and account for loss by Exchange for the quarter Ended June 30th, 1893.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant.
F.D. Chesheir.
Interpreter of Legation

Enclosures 2. Duplicate accounts as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 25 1893
RECEIVED.

No 1719.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 10th 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Despatch —

Enclosing duplicate Statement of Repairs Account for the six months ending June 30th, 1893.

No 1719. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 10th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate statement of the Repairs account of this Legation for the six months ended 30th June 1893.

1719.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Duplicate statement as above.

Dip

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack with 1715 + 1729
OCT 14 1893

No 1720.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 10th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
SEP 25 1893
RECEIVED.

dated April 6/94.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
OCT 14 1893

Subject

The right of foreigners to import machinery into China.

Synopsis

The Yamên denies this right.

Translation of its communication enclosed.

One enclosure.

No 1720.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 10th 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1715, of the 24th July, I forwarded to you a copy of my communication, as dean of the diplomatic body, to the Tsungli Yamên, touching the right of foreigners to import machinery into China. I have now the honor to forward a translation of the answer of the Yamên to that

1/1720

that paper.

It will be seen that the right claimed is, as was expected, disputed and denied. I do not comment on it further at this time, because my colleagues will probably require me to reply to it, and a copy of such reply will be forwarded to you.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby

No 11 Aug. 2nd 1893

Enclosure 1 in No 1720.

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby.

No 11. August 2nd 1893.

Upon the 22nd July last, the Prince and Ministers had the honor to receive a communication from the Minister of the United States wherein, on behalf of the diplomatic body, he brought to the Yamên's attention the action of the Shanghai taotai in prohibiting the importation of cotton-ginning machinery, which was regarded as extraordinary. The Minister of the United States requested that instructions be issued for the rescission of the order complained of.

In reply the Yamên would observe that the right to manufacture native products by foreigners at the treaty ports is not provided for by the treaties

and

and, from the beginning, has never been set down as permissible.

In 1883, a German merchant at Amoy privately set up iron furnaces for the purpose of casting iron pans. Repeated discussions followed between the Yamên and His Excellency Mr. von Brandt on the subject, but the Yamên refused to sanction the carrying on of the enterprise. Again, in 1882, some foreigners in Shanghai desired to manufacture silk stuffs by the use of machinery, and in 1888, a Mr. Grant, of the Kiuang Sheng firm, wished to establish a cotton-ginning mill - a stock company - at Putung, to be worked by machinery to be purchased for the purpose. The establishment of these enterprises received the most serious consideration of

the

the Yamên, but permission was not granted to carry them into operation.

In about February 1883, the Yamên addressed a communication to each of the foreign representatives setting forth that China prohibited the manufacture by foreigners of native products, which is a matter of record.

In the matter of prohibiting the importation of cotton-ginning machinery, the Minister of the United States, in his communication remarks, "It is "thus made clear that plain "rights guaranteed by various "treaties are denied to foreigners".

Is it not known that, since foreigners are not entitled to engage in certain businesses, they are not entitled to the rights and benefits thereof?

Again, the Minister of the

United

United States further remarks (that the prohibition for foreigners to import machinery) "implies, "in a certain sense, the right of "the Chinese to establish trade "monopolies".

To this the Prince and Minister would state that if a certain person has the exclusive right to deal in certain articles of merchandise, imports and exports, and to have for himself the sole benefit therefrom, such a concession would be regarded as a monopoly, but, in the present instance, it is merely China giving protection to the means of livelihood of the common people by prohibiting machinery being imported and thereby, correctly speaking, the practice of monopolies has been prevented. It would seem, therefore, that the statement in the communication under

acknowledgement

acknowledgement is made in a wrong sense, a misunderstanding.

Again, the Minister of the United States states "that the "question cannot strictly be "said to be one applicable to "the to the introduction of "machinery to be used for "manufacturing. The object of the "cotton-gin is not to change or "manufacture cotton into cloth; "it is simply to remove the "seed from the cotton. It leaves "the cotton as it found it except "that it is cleaned of seed."

The Yamen would further observe that the importation of the machinery in question is for cotton-ginning purposes but when the cotton is once cleaned of the seeds it can then be made into yarn or cloth. How can it be said, therefore, that the product is not changed? Therefore China cannot

but

but prohibit the importation of such machinery.

Reference is made in the communication under notice to the two characters kung teo in the various treaties meaning skilled manufacturing pursuits. With regard to these characters the Prince and Ministers would observe that they refer to the employment of manual labour and have no connection in the least with skilled manufacturing pursuits. Matters should not be confused in this respect by dragging in that which is irrelevant.

Reference is also made to the wording of the tariff "that "articles not enumerated "in either list may pay an "ad valorem duty of 5% calculated "on their market value" and "clearly therefore, machinery "may be imported."

Uth

with regard to the tariff the articles therein mentioned, whether dutiable or duty free, are the ordinary articles of trade. Articles that it is right and proper to prohibit cannot be all enumerated in the treaties. China in protecting the means of subsistence of the common people can certainly exercise free and independent power and authority in taking prohibitory measures against the importation of machinery, and it undesirable that she should show a tendency towards compromising matters in this respect.

The Minister of the United States has resided in China for a long time and fully understands this principle and the Prince and Ministers express the hope that he will

lay

lay the views of the Yamên
herein expressed before his
colleagues.

Dip

No 1721. Frederick Miss. Oct 18

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU SEP 26 1893 Jan 7 27 Let

Legation of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE SEP 25 1893 RECEIVED

Peking, August 11th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

The Sungpu murder

Synopsis

Communication touching this subject sent to Yamên as Dean. Copy enclosed.

One enclosure.

No 1721.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 11th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1711, of the 18th of July last, I sent to you a newspaper account of the murder of the two Swedes, Wickholm and Johansson, by a mob at Sungpu, July 1st.

Public meetings of all the foreign residents were shortly afterwards held at Hankow,

Nanking

Nanking and Shanghai to denounce this outrage. At these meetings resolutions were adopted requesting the diplomatic body to demand of the imperial government the punishment of the murderers and of the officials who had been negligent in the discharge of their duty.

The consular body at Hankow also took similar action. In compliance with this public sentiment, I, as Dean, circulated among my colleagues, for approval, a communication addressed to the Tsungli Yamên, which was unanimously approved, and a translation

was

was sent to the Yamên. A
1/1721 copy thereof is herewith
enclosed.

It was the opinion of the
foreign representatives that,
unless exemplary punishment
were meted out, both to the
culpable officials and to the
ringleaders of the mob who
perpetrated these atrocious
murders, the lives of foreigners,
in the Yangtze Valley would
become unsafe.

I recapitulate briefly the facts
relating to the event. Sungpu
is a large walled town, of about
20.000. inhabitants, in the
district of Machang and distant
from Yochow about 180 li

(60

(60 miles). The two Swedes were located in a suburb of this town called Ho-kia-pu. One of them had been there since early in April and the other since early in June. Some objection, owing to the issuing of anonymous placards, had been manifested to the stay of these men at Ho-kia-pu, and the Macheng magistrate had suggested their withdrawal to Hankow. The opposition, however, seemed confined to four men and was not participated in by the people generally.

The landlord who had leased the house to the foreigner,

and

and the principal middleman, were put in jail April 22nd, and kept there until May 20th. The landlord received 1100 blows.

Mr. Wickholm endeavored in vain to procure the Macheng magistrate to issue a proclamation in his behalf. A request to that end was made four times.

Early in June, there were rumors that the missionaries were to be driven out during a "Great Festival", to be held daily from June 28th to July 1st. The military mandarin stationed at Macheng visited the missionaries and endeavored

to

to induce them to leave
until the festival was over,
but they refused on principle
to desert their post. The
mandarin then promised to
protect them. It is needless
to say that no protection
was afforded them, though
the Sungpu magistrate did
go in his chair to the scene
of the riot. He was somewhat
injured by the mob and fled.
A mob of 10.000 people
had gathered. They attacked
the house of the missionaries,
and when there fled over the
roofs of twenty-five or thirty
houses they were pursued
and when they finally were
compelled

compelled to descend to the street, they were beaten to death and their bodies were stripped, mangled and mutilated. The bodies remained where they fell from Saturday until Monday, when the Macheng magistrate had them put in coffins and sent a little later to Hankow.

In this regard it is unnecessary to call your attention to the treaties. The conduct of the officials and the mob is no less contrary to the imperial decree of June 13th 1891.

It will be remembered that the

the emperor, among other things, thereby declared that the several nations are at liberty to promulgate their religion in China; that the missionaries shall be protected in the various provinces; that the governors-general and governors of the various provinces, including by name Hupeh, are commanded to discover, capture, try, convict and execute the leaders of riots; that the local officials must devise measures for the protection of the lives and property of merchants and missionaries.

If these commands were

obeyed

obeyed no riot would be
possible in China. It is my
opinion, derived from official
reports, that generally in
China, and especially in the
Yangtze Valley, antipathy to
foreigners is largely on the
increase. I believe also that,
secretly, this feeling is
encouraged by the local
officials high and low, and
that the people know that
fact. Each summer in China
brings its feeling of dread
of riots to foreigners, which is
justified by the constant
occurrence of disturbances
large and small.

The Sungpu murders may

again

again raise the question as to the extent of the right of foreign missionaries to locate and reside in the interior. This for China, and not the foreign powers, to take the initiative in this discussion. One thing is certain: if she allows missionaries to locate in the interior she must protect them against mobs, if it is possible to do so.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Mr. Denby to the Foreign Office

No. 14, Aug. 9th 1893.

Enclosure in No 1721.

Mr. Denby to the Foreign Office

No 11. Aug. 9th 1893.

Your Highness and
Your Excellencies:

As Dean of the Diplomatic Body, and by its direction, I address to Your Highness and Your Excellencies the following communication.

On the first day of last month two foreigners of Swedish nationality, named respectively Otto F. Wicklund and A. O. Johansson, were brutally murdered by a mob at Ho-kia-pu, a small place in the immediate vicinity of Sungpu.

These two men were missionaries and were quietly pursuing their peaceful avocation when they were murdered. The circumstances attending this atrocious crime were peculiarly revolting. The two men were

pursued

pursued from house to house vainly seeking to escape. They finally fell into the hands of the mob and were killed, and their bodies were stripped, mangled and mutilated.

It is unnecessary to enter into further details as all the facts are, no doubt, well known to Your Highness and Your Excellencies. Under the treaties, and by virtue of the imperial decree of June 13th 1891, these men were entitled to the protection of the magistrate at Macheng. They vainly implored it. This official did not raise a hand to save the lives of these foreigners, though he had abundant warning that a plot was being formed to destroy them.

The foreign representatives have heard of these cruel murders with horror and with

Great

great sorrow. They demand the exemplary punishment of all the officials, high and low, who failed to obey the imperial decree above cited and who, by their culpable negligence, have permitted this atrocious crime to be committed. They demand, also, the just and severe punishment of the ringleaders of the mob, and of those who organized it though not actively participating in it.

The Dean of the Diplomatic Body seizes this occasion to renew to Your Highness and Your Excellencies the assurance of his most distinguished consideration.

Ack'g Dis

No 1722.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 25 1893
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
SEP 25 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 14th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledging receipt of

despatches.

No 1722.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 14th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your circular of the 16th, and of your despatches No 808, of the 17th, and 809, of the 20th June.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Dip

Acknowledges Dels.

No 1723.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 17th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 10 1893
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledging despatches.

No 1723.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 17th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches No 810 and 811, of the 30th June, and 812 of the 5th July.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No 1724.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 19th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 10 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

Subject

The cipher code.

No 1724.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 19th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In reply to your despatch No 810, of June 30th last, directing me to report at once the number of the cipher volume in use at this legation, and of the instruction for using the same known as the Polycryptic Code, I have the honor to state that the number of the cipher volume and code in my possession

is

is 39.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Sweden Min. Oct. 14 93

No 1725.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Note by subject & file.
aad
OCT 10 1893

Oct 12

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 21st, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 10 1893
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

Subject

The Sungpu murders.

Synopsis

Translation of the Yamên's answer to the Dean's communication.

One enclosure.

No 1725.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 21st, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1721, of the 11th instant, I enclosed a copy of a communication relating to the Sungpu murder, sent by me, as Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, to the Tsungli Yamên.

I have now the honor to enclose a translation of the Yamen's answer to that paper.

1/1725.

The

The Yamên seeks to throw some blame on the Swedes by charging that they procured some villagers to be arrested, and by that action incensed the people. I am not able to say, at present, whether this story is true or not.

The Swedish Consul-General, Mr. Carl Bock, has been bitterly denounced at Hankow and Shanghai, on account of alleged admissions made by him that his compatriots were in the wrong.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:
The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby
№12. Aug-14 1893.

Enclosure in No 1725.

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby.

No 12. August 14. 1893.

Upon the 9th of August, the Prince and Ministers had the honor to receive a communication from the Minister of the United States to the effect that, on the 1st of July last, two foreigners, of Swedish nationality, were brutally murdered by a mob at a small place in the immediate vicinity of Sungpu, in the Macheng district, Hupeh; that the foreign representatives had heard of this cruel murder with horror and with great sorrow, and they demand the punishment of the officials, high and low, who failed to obey the imperial decree and who, by their culpable negligence, have permitted this atrocious crime to

be

be committed, and the just and severe punishment of the ringleaders of the mob and of those who organized it, though not actively participating in it.

With regard to this case, the Prince and Ministers would observe that, on the 4th of July, the Yamên received a telegram from the viceroy of Hsu-kuang, to which a reply was sent ordering that officer to lose no time in holding an examination and to take action accordingly. In answer the viceroy sent a telegram as follows:

"In the matter of the murder "of the two missionaries, Messrs "Ekholm and Johansson, in the "district of Macheng, it appears "that they were of Swedish "nationality. Sweden is not "represented by a consul (at "Hankow), but the vice-consul

for

"for Germany, Mr. John Thyens,
"has hitherto looked after its
"interests.

"In the Macheng district,
"hitherto, there have never been
"any missionary establishments.
"The said missionaries insisted
"on going there for the purpose
"of propagating their religious
"tenets. The taotai of Hankow,
"Mr. Yen, repeatedly, by
"communications, urged that
"they be prevented from carrying
"out their object, and Mr.
"Consul Thyen consented to act
"accordingly.

"The missionaries, however,
"subsequently engaged the
"services of some escorts or
"guards to accompany them
"and insisted on going to
"Sungpu. It was just the time,
"about the 5th moon of every
"year, when at Sungpu there
"is the Dragon Boat Festival. A

large

"large concourse of people watch
"the festivae, and the magistrate,
"fearing that trouble might occur,
"tried to urge, by various means,
"the missionaries to leave the
"place, but they would not move.
"The magistrate then sent a
"special messenger requesting
"them to come and stay
"temporarily in the city, but
"they were unwilling to give
"heed to this request.

"The magistrate then went
"in person to Sungpu and
"stayed a few days with soldier
"to give the necessary protection.
"Unexpectedly, after the festival
"was over, on the 1st of July,
"some villagers, who were passing
"the door of the house occupied
"by the missionaries, desired to
"enter and see the place, when
"the missionaries called the
"guards whom they had employed,
"who seized four men, bound

them

"them and took them out of a
"back entrance and, by a
"round-about way, escorted
"them into the city. When the
"villagers demanded their
"release they were not to be
"found, and this led to the
"suspicion that they were dead,
"which had the effect of exciting
"the angry feelings of the people,
"who began to shower stones in
"a most violent and determined
"manner at the missionaries,
"which caused their death."

"On the 11th of July, Mr. Carl
"Bock, the Consul-General for
"Sweden at Shanghai, arrived
"at Hankang and called on
"the viceroy and urged that
"action be taken in the matter.
"The viceroy informed him that
"the Macheng magistrate had
"repeatedly petitioned the
"Hankow taotai, urging that
"the missionaries withdraw

from

"from Dungpu. The missionaries
"knew full well that the
"populace was angry and violent
"in the extreme in its feelings
"toward them, still they
"obstinately refused to leave the
"place. A feeling of indignation
"had also been stirred up
"among the people on account of
"the men who had been bound
"and beaten. The guards of the
"missionaries were examined and
"bear witness of this fact. This
"truly shows that the missionaries
"were wrong and invited trouble.

"It is proper, however, that
"rigorous punishment should
"be meted out to those who
"committed the murder, in
"accordance with the code of
"China, and also to consider
"the amount of indemnity to be
"paid for the lives of the
"murdered men. Thus we will be
"able to face the Government

of

"Sweden in the matter.

"Mr. Consul-General Bock
"has returned to Shanghai.
"The deputy, the prefect and the
"magistrate have petitioned
"that three of the rioters have
"been arrested and have
"admitted taking part in the
"riot. There are still others
"that ought to be apprehended,
"and, after a thorough examination
"has taken place, the measure
"of punishment to be meted out
"to the guilty will be determined."

The Yamên would observe that, from the representations made in the telegraphic reply of the viceroy of Hukuang, the local officials of Hupeh did exert themselves to give due protection to the said missionaries. The missionaries were well aware that the people of Sungpu were violent and cruel in their disposition toward them, still,

from

from the beginning, they would not listen to the admonitions of the magistrate to retire from the place, but voluntarily chose to follow in the path of danger. Afterwards, a feeling of indignation arose among the populace on account of the men who had been bound, which resulted in this unexpected calamity.

The officials of Hupeh, on hearing of the murder, issued strenuous instructions to the deputy prefect and magistrate to cause the arrest of the murderers, so that they could be punished with severity. Further, it has been agreed that an indemnity is to be paid for the lives of the missionaries. The action taken by the officials, high and low, in this case, has been befitting and proper.

Mr. Consul-General Bock

is

is familiar with the circumstances of the case, hence there is no need to go into any discussion about it here.

As in duty bound, the Prince and Ministers address this communication in reply to the Minister of the United States and will thank him to communicate the contents thereof to the Foreign Representatives at Peking.

To

His Excellency

Charles Denby

etc. etc. etc.

Ackbg rec'd

No 1726.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 22nd, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 10 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Allowance for furniture for legation offices.

No 1726.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 22nd, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your cipher telegram, of the 19th instant, informing me that I am allowed $700 for the furnishing of the legation offices.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Denby to Gresham

No. 1727.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
OCT 20 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 24th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 10 1893
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledging receipt of

despatches

No 1727.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 24th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches as follows: No 813 of the 6th July; No 814 of the 7th July; No 815 of the 12th July, and of your circular of the 7th July, with reference to the irrigation congress to be convened at Los Angeles in October.

I

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No 1728.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 24th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 10 1893
RECEIVED

— Wm. Woodville Rockhill —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —
Advising draft for $700.
for purchase of office
furniture.

T. M.

No 1728.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 24th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to advise my draft on you for Seven hundred dollars for the purchase of office furniture as authorized by your telegram of the 19th instant.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Charles Denby

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack with 1715 + 1720
OCT 14 1893

add & April 6/94.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
OCT 14 1893

No 1729.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 30th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 10 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The right of foreigners to import machinery into China

Synopsis

Copy of reply to Yamên enclosed.

One enclosure.

No 1729.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 30th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1720, of the 10th instant, I had the honor to transmit a copy of the translation of the answer of the Tsungli Yamên to my communication relating to the right of foreigners to import machinery into China. I have now the honor to enclose a copy of my reply to that

1/729

communication.

communication.

While the word "machinery" was not contained in the original treaty, it has, for a long time, been regularly inserted in the copies of the treaties which the Imperial Customs prepares and circulates. I claim that by this practice the right to import machinery is acknowledged, and cannot now be disputed.

Some other points made by the Yamên are noticed and answered.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Mr. Denby to the Yamên
Aug. 29th 1893.

Enclosure in No 1729

Mr. Denby to the Foreign Office.

August 29th 1893.

Your Highness and
Your Excellencies:

I have the
honor to acknowledge the
receipt of the communication of
Your Highness and Your
Excellencies, bearing date August
2nd relating to the importation
of machinery into China.

I have sent this communication
to the Ministers of France, Spain,
Great Britain, Germany and the
Netherlands and the Chargés
d'Affaires of Belgium, Italy and
Japan, and have been directed
by them to send the following
reply to Your Highness and
Your Excellencies.

Your Highness and Your
Excellencies state that "the right
"to manufacture native products
"by foreigners at the treaty ports

is

is not provided for by the
"stipulations of treaty."

The question at issue is
not the right to manufacture
native products at the treaty
ports, but the right to import
machinery. I have no doubt of
the existence of the right to
manufacture, but I prefer, at this
time to confine the discussion to the exact
point of controversy. I observe
simply that the text of the
treaties gives to foreigners the
full liberty to transact every
kind of business at the treaty
ports except such as is expressly
forbidden. The only limitations
on this general power of carrying
on business are either expressed
in the treaties themselves or in
the rules and regulations which
have been adopted since the
treaties were made. It is to be
observed that in all cases in
which permission to trade is

granted

granted, such permission must be considered as general unless special restrictions are added to it. From such permission all the usual and natural results must be deduced.

We have, of course, no power to alter the treaties nor to apply them differently than the language used plainly imports.

The customs tariff was signed at Shanghai the 8th day of November 1858, being the 3rd day, 10th moon, of the 8th year of Hien Fung. It was a part of the British treaty of Tientsin and it was agreed that it and the rules appended to it should be equally binding on the governments and subjects of both countries as the treaty itself. The rules specify what articles shall be contraband. Machinery is not so specified.

Some years after the making

of

of this treaty, the word machinery was inserted in the tariff by the authority of the government of China, and an import tax of 5% ad valorem was affixed thereto. Ever since "machinery" has appeared in the published tariff, which is scattered over the world and is sold to all applicants. The tariff has thus been construed in the strongest manner by China, and it is too late to say that machinery cannot be imported. Such a ruling would now result in great injury to numbers of people.

Your Highness and Your Excellencies cite several cases in which the right of foreigners to manufacture native produce was denied, but these were not cases affecting the right to import machinery and besides they were not acquiesced in

by

by the foreign representatives.

Your Highness and Your Excellencies claim that by prohibiting the introduction of machinery monopolies are prevented. If all the world, natives and foreigners, had the right to import machinery there certainly would be no monopoly. China establishes a monopoly when she permits one factory to import and refuses the right to others.

As to the injury which is to be done to the common people by the use of machinery, all that we have to say is that the history of the world proves that this class is the one which is particularly benefitted by such use.

It is not necessary to advert at length to the last clause of Your Highness and Your Excellencies' communication, relating

to

to the tariff. I have shown that the tariff as now prepared and published provides for the importation of machinery. It is not, therefore, an unenumerated article that is discussed, but an enumerated article that is agreed to be admitted.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to Your Highness and Your Excellencies the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

(signed) Charles Denby.